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THURSDAY MARCH 16TH, 2017

Business is Booming on Bridgend's Industrial Estates
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NOW MORE FRUSTRATION FOR TRADERS OVER THEIR BUSINESS RATES RELIEF

by PHILIP IRWIN

COWBRIDGE traders who were hit by the announcement of massive rises in business rates early this year are furious at the way the Welsh Government's (WG's) relief scheme is operating.

Firstly, now that business rates are being sent out by the Vale Council, they are angry that, because councils have so far not been given WG guidelines in applying the relief scheme, they will have to pay the full amount now and until the situation is clarified.

Secondly, they are furious that all businesses will benefit from the relief scheme – even those who have not complained because their rates stayed broadly the same.

What is more, even businesses whose rates fell at the last revaluation will get the same cash help as businesses hammered by the rises.

Recently, the WG Finance Minister, Prof Mark Drakeford, announced that £10 million extra would be made available to ease the plight of traders who were badly affected by the rises.

However, when The GEM spoke to Sally Stephenson of The Pencil case, Cowbridge, she was aghast at the way the scheme had been implemented.

She said: "It turns out that shops with a rateable value of up to £12,000 will get £500.

"Businesses with rateable values between £12,000 and £50,000 will receive a £1,500 discount.

"I can't believe that they have distributed the cash this way. There are thousands of businesses out there who were not hit hard, and many were already looking at a fall in rates – and now they have been 'compensated' with a further discount. It's crazy."

She continued: "Surely the WG could have targeted this fund much more sensibly? On top of that, they couldn't even organise things in time for the councils to use the information when sending bills out."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

WE WANT TO TELL YOU A STORY!



ABOVE:
The pupils of Llanfair Primary school had a very busy time recently, including dressing up as characters from their favourite children's stories. *(SEE PAGE 5)*

Trust's plan will mean 'goodbye' to rusty cattle sheds

AS was revealed by The GEM last week, Cowbridge Charter Trust has plans for the old cattle market sheds that adjoin the town wall, and also for parts of Old Hall Gardens, ***writes PHILIP IRWIN*****.**

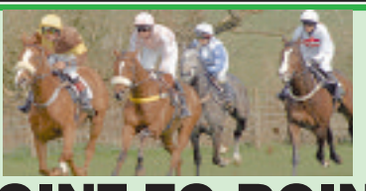
The Trust is applying to the Welsh Government for a grant from the Rural Community Development Fund (RCDF).

The application includes building a canopy over the children's story space outside Cowbridge Library, to enable year-round use, and installing an electronic story board, again outside the library, giving the history of the town, its gardens and its wildlife.

A Trust spokesman said: "The redundant cattle sheds and pens adjacent to the town wall will be removed, ridding the town of a dangerous eyesore and eventually permitting a landscaped extension of the existing car park."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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- Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

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Incinerator implications

REGARDING the premature construction of the controversial incinerator on the Barry Waterfront: whose lunatic idea was it to site it so close, not only to long-established homes, but also to the thousands of new homes in the docks redevelopment?

As I understand it, the wood chippings to be incinerated are not just going to be 'clean', untreated wood, but will have been treated with paint, adhesives, preservatives, and other chemical coatings.

Do we have full details of the proposed equipment and measures being used to prevent air pollution and particulate fallout? What about PM 2.5s (particles of 2.5 microns and less) which can be absorbed into the bloodstream through the lungs?

There are 12 schools within a kilometre radius of the site – the immediate fallout zone – where growing children could be affected with who-knows-what health problems later in life.

Has the council's air pollution team given this due consideration? If so, what were their conclusions?

I note that the planning application has been turned down in the past, so it seems cavalier of Biomass to be at the construction stage now without permission.

Andy Griffiths,
Independent candidate, Court ward.

'When it comes to cancer treatment, trust the experts'

I WAS glad to read the recent article in The GEM by Sarah Greene, headlined *'Make a noise and save lives'*, concerning ovarian cancer.

My 51-year-old daughter complained of what she thought was a water infection that did not seem to clear – her tummy was bloated and uncomfortable.

Her GP sent her for an ultra sound and within days she was in the Heath, having major surgery to remove a tumour.

Then it was planned that she should receive chemotherapy to kill any cells remaining. Velindre told her that she was treatable, but not curable.

Please be warned that there are individuals and organisations out there professing to know better than the medical professionals.

Please listen to the people who have been properly trained, and take only prescribed medications from the experts.

Cancer may be cured in the future – to stay alive is the answer. Polio and TB were eventually eradicated and cancer will follow, hopefully.

My daughter Carolyn died three months after her operation. She chose not to have chemotherapy.

Mrs Lilian Gatt,
Barry

LACK OF FORESIGHT BY HOUSE BUILDERS

'Give small developers a chance in the Vale'

FURTHER to the recent letter headed *'Smaller Vale villages have been urbanised'*, contrary to the obvious desire of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the issue of new builds in the Vale will not go away.

It has been documented that the target of circa 10,000 new homes was well in excess of the need for housing, putting it at as much as half that amount. I've seen various objections to the new developments.

Unfortunately, until people start seeing these developments go up and the impact they will have on the Vale as a whole, the council will probably continue to build, but then it will be too late.

Little more than 100 years ago, the Roath area in Cardiff was farmland. It resembled in character Llantwit Major, a village grown up around a manor house and church. Then came the industrial revolution and the expansion of Cardiff docks and first grand houses were built for wealthy businessmen, (many of these are now demolished), then more housing was built for the growing number of people coming to work in Cardiff.

The roads in the Roath area were originally built for trams. Now you can drive through many areas of Cardiff, such as Riverside, Splott and Canton and not see a single tree on many of the streets.

Is this the fate in store for the Vale? Many of the new developments are on green belt land, something which the council seems to have conveniently overlooked, even though the Government has now issued a housing White Paper to protect forests and ancient woodland.

Gavin Barwell, Minister of State for Housing, Planning and London, recently stated in an interview: "*We are not going to weaken the protections. We have a clear manifesto commitment. There is no need to take huge tracts of land out of the green belt to solve the housing crisis.*"

This is not a NIMBY response to housing in the Vale. It's a long-term approach. We do need affordable housing, but not in the way the council is going about it. I quote a letter to The GEM in 2015: *'The proposer is often a UK housing developer with vast financial resources.'* Taylor Wimpy and Redrow are large developers.

If we need housing in the Vale, why not allow smaller developers the chance? There are many innovative architects in the UK who would jump at the chance to design a new estate. Houses have been built underground, around trees, as tree houses and above the ground altogether.

Large developers and councils have shown a distinct lack of imagination and foresight.

Surely if we are thinking of town and country planning, we need to include provision for renewable energy? Are there any plans for solar panels and small wind turbines to be fitted to these houses? On this amount of housing, surely this would ease the burden on the countryside of large solar farms.

I'm glad that there are still objections being raised to these developments, because if we don't object, could we one day be living in the vast metropolis that is Cardiff and Bridgend combined?

Mrs Annmarie Kane,
Llantwit Major.

The T9 bus saga deserves response

WITH reference to last week's letter headed 'When will Cardiff Airport stop being used as a political football?' – I was shocked by the T9 saga, which is blatantly against teenagers and over-60s.

A very good point was made about the difference in air passenger tax – cheaper flights is the reason most people in Wales opt to fly from Bristol, rather than Cardiff, plus expensive parking. The figures quoted of £800,000 fares suggest someone is making a profit, so why subsidise to the tune of almost half a million?

I commute to Cardiff to work and must use my car most days, because there is no suitable bus – with the 91 bus finishing too early. How about a compromise?

Reduce the T9 to every half hour, instead of 20 minutes, and make it limited stop at Culverhouse, Wenvoe, Cwm Ciddy and airport hotel, with Vale residents allowed to use the service (I was recently denied travel from Cardiff because I wanted to get off at Tesco Barry to catch the Nat 303 service).

When Roger Lewis took over at Cardiff Airport I expected him to sort out things like this; he has always turned things round in previous challenges and the amount of public feeling about the T9 deserves a definitive response from the top.

Dai Griffiths,
Llantwit Major.

Praise for the Welsh NHS

FOLLOWING my 10-day stay at the Bridgend Hospital, I would like to thank all those involved in my case – Dr Simpson GP, who was spot-on in his diagnosis, and swift to get me into the acute medical unit; all the staff in AMU, Dr Hounsel in the opthalmology department, all the staff on Ward 11, Red bay, and Dr Martin and his team.

We hear such negatives re our NHS, but at my point of need at home and while in Bridgend, that was fully met in every aspect, and I should like to acknowledge that publicly.

G Vaughan,
Llantwit Major.

'Act now to save Penarth Pier cinema'

IT is extremely unfair on local people that patrons of the Pier Cinema should suffer the consequences of Penarth Arts and Crafts and the Pier Pavilion facing financial challenges.

I strongly feel we should act now before it is too late.

Where a crisis of this nature occurs in other towns, and even villages, the people get together and start a community cinema by taking over care and control of the existing premises.

This is a simple process with lots of free guidance available from the British Film Institute and their non-profit making distribution channel 'Cinema for All'.

The cinema may be taken over. and run entirely by, community volunteers – as a cooperative or other mutual ownership structure. Start-up grants may be available.

Should you share these concerns and would like to volunteer to help save your cinema, you would be most welcome at an informal open meeting at the Pilot Pub Restaurant at 7.30pm on Monday, March 20.

Philip Rapier,
Penarth Town Councillor.

'Thanks for support over new junction'

I SHOULD like to thank all those involved with the creation of the new junction on the A4055 Barry Road and Cross Common Road junction.

I began the campaign in 2001 and mainly due to 'cost pressures' it has taken that long to achieve!

I would particularly like to thank the Garland and Joyce families for their continued efforts over so many years to alleviate the flood risk at properties in the vicinity, by helping me to put pressure on the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the Environment Agency, (now NRW), Welsh Water, and other stakeholders, to remove the ancient bridge (to be removed) which causes floodwater retention leading to increased flood risk; and to create the new junction.

I believe that the junction still needs extra lighting and warning signs along the A4055 but I am liaising with the Highways Department on these matters.

Christopher Williams,
e*lected member Democratic Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council.*

'Fantastic response' to Navy reunion call

I DOUBT very much if the reader who only writes the occasional 'Letter to the Editor' realises just how well read that letter will be.

Local newspapers around the country, including The GEM, recently printed a letter of mine about those who have served in the Royal Navy trying to find their old shipmates.

The response has been fantastic; there are now more than 40 Royal Navy reunion weekends organised around the country.

For those who are seeking the camaraderie of the past, the reunions are listed on the RN Shipmates web site, *www.rnshipmates.co.uk* and if your readers want to get in touch and start a search, the contact is there.

For those not on email, drop a line to: Mike Crowe, 7 Heath Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8PG and I will send you a list and details. Please enclose a stamp on its own backing paper.

Typical are the HMS *Cavalier* Association reunion, the Field Gunners, HMS *Illustrious* Association, along with HMS *Ark Royal*, HMS *Collingwood*, HMS *Loch Fada* and, of course, the RN Shipmates reunion itself, for those without an Association – and many many more.

Mike Crowe,
Isle of Wight.

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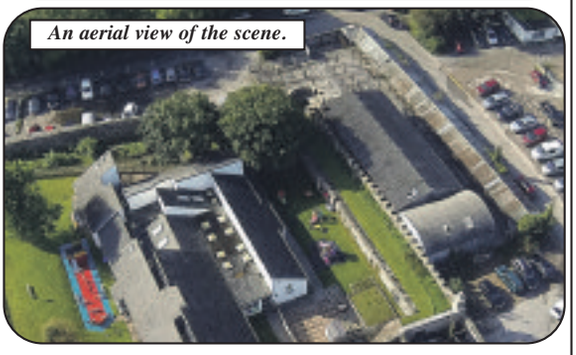
Cattle sheds to be taken away in Charter Trust's new plans



Rubbish tends to collect in the old shed.



The cattle sheds that will be taken away.



An aerial view of the scene.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The spokesman continued: "This area is currently a disgrace to the town: it is accessible to anyone from children to vandals. Broken parts of the asbestos roof have been smashed and litter the floor, along with broken bottles and other disgusting rubbish, creating a very dangerous area."

The clearance of the building and pens will afford an uncluttered view of the town wall not seen for nearly a century.

The newly-exposed wall will be re-pointed, and restored to match work already carried out by the Trust on the rest of the walls.

Low energy up-lighters around the perimeter will highlight one of the glories of the town scene and make the area more welcoming at night, especially to students at Cowbridge Community College.

Showing the level of community support is important to any request for grant aid these days, the Trust hopes that people will complete the short questionnaire to be found in the Cowbridge Library, the Community College in the Old Hall, the Town Hall office and the Co-op Supermarket.

It can also be downloaded from the Trust's web site *www.cctrust.co.uk*

A Trust spokesman told The GEM that the response so far had been overwhelmingly favourable. Of the seven suggestions made for the project, six have an approval rate of more than 90 per cent.

The one under 90, the electronic story board, was still recording an 82 per cent approval rate.

There will be an open evening in the Lesser Hall on Wednesday, March 22, 6:30pm to 9pm.

Coun Sue Cox, the chair of Cowbridge Charter Trust, is inviting all those interested to drop in to see the proposals, complete a questionnaire, and sample light refreshments provided by the local Co-op supermarket.

Business rates: support package

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Coun Neil Moore, the Leader of the Vale Council, explained: "Guidance from Welsh Government on how the Town Centre Relief will be applied to business rates only arrived on Monday this week.

"This means Small Business Rate Relief and Transitional Relief has been applied to all bills sent out to businesses, but Town Centre Relief has not.

"The Vale Council will now consider the guidance, and decide whether to adopt what is a discretionary scheme. If the scheme is approved, business occupiers will be invited to apply for Town Centre Rate Relief.

"Should they meet the criteria, a revised bill will be sent showing the adjusted amount."

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: "We recognise some businesses and some areas of Wales have been adversely affected by the independent Valuation Office Agency's revaluation.

"We have listened to small businesses' concerns and introduced a comprehensive package of support, two bespoke relief schemes in 2017-18 – a transitional rates relief scheme and a high street rates relief scheme. This is in addition to the £100m small business rates relief scheme.

"Businesses with a rateable value between £12,000 and £50,000, who have seen their rateable values rise as a result of revaluation, and who do not receive any other form of rates relief will benefit from the higher level of support – £1,500 – available from our £10m high street rate relief scheme in 2017-18.

"We have worked closely with local authorities in designing business rates relief – all councils now have the information they need to implement the £200m-plus of rates relief provided by the Welsh Government.

"As a result, more than three-quarters of all business ratepayers will receive help with their rates in 2017-18."

'A Welsh cake, Prime Minister?'



Alun Cairns introduces Prime Minister Theresa May to Jack Farrington and Becky Smith.

Jack Farrington, of Cowbridge High Street's Elephant & Bun delicatessen, was among a select group invited to 10 Downing Street by the Prime Minister on St David's Day.

He joined five other Welsh food and drink producers, including Llanerch Vineyard, Hensol, at a special St celebration, hosted by the Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale of Glamorgan.

Jack, 26, a director of the Elephant & Bun, said: "We were asked to take 300 of our Welsh cakes – traditional, chocolate chip, and orange and cranberry – for more than 180 guests to enjoy on St David's Day.

"It was a great experience being inside No. 10 and Prime Minister Theresa May took time to speak to all the Welsh food suppliers.

"We got a lot of great feedback, people even asking if we could supply them in London.

"I know the staff at No 10 were delighted to sample the few Welsh cakes that were left at the end of the event!"



COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Llangan School

MY word, the children will be involved in a number of interesting activities this month!

Years 5/6 are attending Pencoed swimming pool for swimming lessons this week and on Wednesday, March 15 the younger pupils were spending the day at Folly Farm.

Today (March 16) the Welsh Air Ambulance will be at the school to talk to years 3/4 about their work.

On Tuesday of this week, former headteacher, Mary Noyes, was present to help out with the school choir.

Church services

THE next service at Saron Chapel, Treoes, will take place on Sunday, March 19 at 3pm when Pastor Chika will officiate.

A warm welcome will be extended to everyone wishing to attend.

A Eucharist service takes place at St Canna's, Llangan, on the second Sunday of each month at 11.15am. On the fourth Sunday, a family service will be held at 11am.

For further information, contact Mrs Ruth Williams at Great House, Treoes.


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'Wales should encourage faith tourism' – *U3A IS TOLD*

JOHN WINTON, who helped establish the Church Tourism Network Wales (CTNW), visited Cowbridge U3A recently to give an illustrated presentation entitled 'Have I got Pews for You', which had a special emphasis on churches in the Vale.

The CTNW encourages more access to places of worship and the advance of education through providing increased and better managed entry for the public to church buildings.

About 20 years ago, 80 per cent of churches in Wales were closed except for services, but now some 40 per cent are open daily, with another 10 per cent being 'easily accessible' (there is a nearby key holder available).

The main aim is to promote visits, rather than to raise money (despite churches often being associated with fundraising for one cause or another).

Contrary to the expected result, vandalism of churches has not increased with the 'open door' policy, although there have to be responsible measures in place such as not having valuable items on show or leaving donation boxes full of cash.

Since 2000, CTNW has acted as a catalyst for local faith communities to participate in the tourism economy of Wales. Previously, very little structured religious tourism development activity took place in Wales, or in the UK as a whole, despite the fact that religious buildings are a huge draw for international visitors to Great Britain. Visiting cathedrals and churches is high on the list of tourist attractions.

The 'Faith Tourism Action Plan' for Wales, launched by Edwina Hart AM in St Asaph, was probably the first government attempt in Europe to acknowledge faith tourism formally. It drew attention to the proud ecclesiastical heritage of the principality, from Tintern Abbey and Strata Florida to Llandaff Cathedral and the Norwegian Church in Cardiff. Wales has over 600 places with the word 'Llan' in their name, which usually denotes a connection with the local saint or Our Lady.

The Vale contains one of the best collections of medieval churches in Wales. There is St Illtud's in Llantwit Major (Llanilltud Fawr) with its new visitor centre in the Galilee Chapel displaying five remarkable standing stones. Then there is St Cadoc's in Llancarfan with its wall paintings, which were one of the most significant historical finds of recent years in Wales. The reconstructed St Teilo's Church in the Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans has recreated the vivid colours of the medieval wall paintings.

There was mention too of the small, ancient church of St Brise near Eglwys Brewis, which lies within the boundary of Ministry of Defence land at St Athan.

Wales has many old pilgrimage routes and these are being re-developed as walking trails, connecting heritage religious sites. There are new paths as well, such as the Cistercian Way pioneered by Professor Madeleine Gray (a guest speaker at Cowbridge U3A's History Group last year).

John Winton concluded his talk with a mention of the Living Wells Project, which aims to identify neglected holy wells across Wales and promote local engagement with them, but that, as the saying goes, is another story!

Next meeting**: a talk entitled 'The Enemy we Killed, my Friend', by Captain David Jones at 2pm on Wednesday, April 12, in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome (there is a small fee, which will include refreshments). www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge* ***SPM

Merched y Wawr

BUOM yn dathlu Dydd Gŵyl Dewi trwy gynnal bore coffi er budd Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd 2017. Daeth llu o bobl i'n cefnogi ac i fwynhau paned, pice a chlonc mewn awyrgylch hyfryd.

Diolchwn i'r bobl ddaeth i'n cefnogi, i Marged Hall am ein diddanu ar y delyn ac i fusnesau'r Bontfaen a gyfrannodd wobrau raffl hael.

Yn arbennig, diolchwn i Cath a Rob Thomas am ein croesawu i'w cartref.

To celebrate Saint David's Day, we organised a coffee morning, in aid of the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2017.

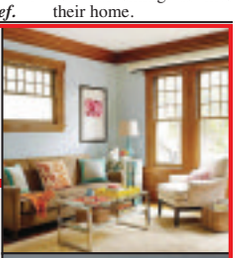
The event was exceptionally well attended, as people came to enjoy a cuppa, Welsh cakes and a chat in a convivial atmosphere.

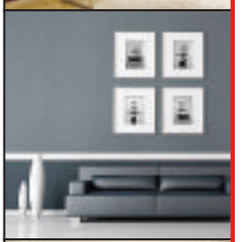
Our thanks go to all those who came to support us, to Marged Hall for entertaining us on the harp, and to those businesses in Cowbridge who donatedgenerous raffle prizes.

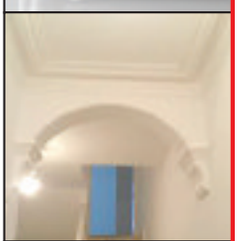
We especially thank Cath and Rob Thomas for welcoming us into their home.

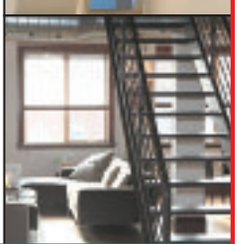
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Isaac hopes to get Apple invite after devising maths app

A Penarth schoolboy has devised a highly creative revision product which he hopes will get him an invite to Apple's World Wide Developers Conference event.

by TIM CHAPMAN



Isaac Chrysostom

Isaac Chrysostom's creation is already available on iTunes.

Isaac (14) who attends St Cyres School in Penarth, started coding when he was just 10, by learning HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

He explained: "These are coding languages used to make websites, and I learnt them through the help of books.

"I slowly moved on to more advanced programming languages such as Java and Python.

"Eventually, I decided to begin making iOS apps, and that led me to make the app 'MathsRobot LearnMaths' which is now available on the App Store."

Isaac's app was inspired by his dislike of studying from textbooks.

"The ultimate reason I made this app was because I studied GCSE higher maths when I was only 11, but although I am now very good at maths, I did not like the way I studied – reading a massive book filled with hundreds of pages of questions and test papers."

So Isaac set out to make maths more accessible and entertaining.

"The goal of my app is to make revision easier, and maybe even add an element of fun to it.

"My app features many of the topics from that book, and the magic of that is you can simply fit it in your pocket.

"I have also added revision tools such as multiple choice tests, smart recommendations for study, and a points system which rewards users for studying by giving them a higher rank on the leaderboard.

"I am also working on an update to this app which will have many new tools for revision, and I am hoping that the update gets me a scholarship for Apple's World Wide Developers Conference event."

To win a scholarship, apps must use Apple's technologies in a creative way.

"I am hoping that all the code that I put into this app will eventually pay off. In the future, I want to pursue a career in computer programming."

Isaac's headteacher, Dr Jonathan Hicks, said the app had the potential to help many youngsters, keen to improve their understanding of mathematics.

"As the only 'Apple Distinguished School' in Wales, all our pupils use iPads in the most innovative and creative ways as part of their day-to-day learning.

"Isaac has taken this to the next level by creating this fantastic maths app which has benefitted both his understanding of maths and has the potential to help many other pupils."

The app's website is *learnmaths.mathsrobot.com*.

Busy week for Llanfair Primary!









THE children of Llanfair Primary School had a very busy time last week, when years 5 and 6 went to Llangrannog for a three- day visit.

While there, the children took part in lots of different activities, including go karting, quad biking, skiing, rope climbing, team building, and horse riding . An amazing time was had by all.

On Friday, all the children, including nursery, celebrated World Book Day by coming to school dressed as their favourite character from their favourite books.

At Llanfair, we had too many characters to name; however, they included Peter Pan, White Rabbit, Mr Fox, Snow White, Superwoman, Gruffalo, Robin Hood– to name but a few! A fantastic day was had by all.

MICHELLE ROWLAND

ST DAVID'S DAY TREATS FOR THE PENLLYN WI

THE ladies of Penllyn and District WI were greeted by the delicious smell of freshly-made Welsh cakes as they arrived at the village hall for their March meeting, and a belated St David's Day celebration.

After munching their way through the treats, they were entertained by Mrs Sue Barrow, their speaker, who talked about her life as a published author of children's fiction and non-fiction books. She told them that her love of writing started as a young child when she "scribbled" at any opportunity.

She developed her talents through her teens and after a break to bring up her family, she returned to writing and had several books accepted and published. She left the members under no illusion that writing was an easy occupation, telling them that the process is long and takes patience and enthusiasm.

However, she encouraged anyone with aspirations to write to "give it a go" and not give up – good advice for those of us who send reports to The GEM each month!

Next month, the ladies will turn their attention to the garden and look forward to hearing Mr Ivor Mace talking about a year in his garden.

JANE EXELL

Insight into work of the Samaritans

SOUTHERNDOWN WI members have been focusing on people and issues in their locality, and were pleased to find extraordinary initiative and creativity all around them.

They welcomed volunteers 'Gareth' and 'Lowri' from the Samaritans at their March meeting (not their real names).

The Samaritans offer anonymity to their volunteers and callers. Volunteers go through a 10-session training course with a mentor.

The key skill the volunteers develop is listening.

Gareth has been associated with the Samaritans since 1976 and is convinced that listening to callers' concerns and problems is healing and restorative to them.

On average, the Samaritans answer about 2.5 million calls a year in the UK, plus about 250,000 emails and 400,000 text messages.

The Southerndown WI members were impressed and moved at the volume of calls the Samaritans receive and the dedication and kindness offered by their volunteers.

MS

Photo club's annual display

VALE Photographic Club entertained Alun Cairns MP on Saturday at their annual exhibition which is being held at Old Hall Adult Education Centre throughout this month.

Mr Cairns had learned through The GEM, that next November the club will be representatives of the Welsh Photographic Federation at a UK-wide photographic competition organised by the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain.

He was keen to hear about the amateur photography scene from members and wished them well in the competition.

Gerald Harbour (Chair VPC).

'I don't like them in Lycra' – and other amusing poems!

AT our March meeting our speaker Jill Evans, a former teacher, entertained us with her poems.

What wonderful poems they were, with enticing titles such as 'The Wonder Bra', 'Spirella', 'The Pothole Man' and 'I Don't Like Them in Lycra'.

We laughed the entire time she was reading them. We had a highly enjoyable evening.

On to business: we welcomed two new members. Our visit to the Royal Mint will leave Llantwit bus station at 10am. The council meeting at Port Talbot will cost £13.

The Vale Photographic Club has an exhibition in Cowbridge. Dawn is doing a sponsored skydive for Alzheimer's Society, and quite a few people gave money towards that.

There will be a book stall after the April meeting. We were also advised to be extra careful because there are a lot of scams doing the rounds at the moment. The board was put up for anyone who wanted to put their name forward for the committee.

The raffle was won by Nicky Deere and Joyce Bruten, the monthly competition jointly by Mary Davies and Ann Sparks. We meet again on the second Thursday in April.

EM DAVIES

CYLCH MEITHRIN LLANILLTUD FAWR'S ST DAVID'S DAY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE DRAGONS AND CAKES!







THE children of Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr enjoyed lots of Welsh-themed activities in their St David's Day costumes on March 1.

They made dragon masks and enjoyed a Welsh cake at snack time!

For more information on registering your child at the Cylch, contact Kirsti on 07908308294.

Welsh WASPIs make themselves heard on pensions in Parliament

ON Wednesday, March 8, WASPI supporters went to Westminster to lobby the Chancellor Philip Hammond on the day of the Budget.

WASPI stands for 'Women Against State Pension Inequality', and among the protestors were women from south Wales.

Kay Clarke from Barry who took part in the protest, explained: "Thousands of women and men participated in our mass demonstration outside Parliament to demand an end to state pension inequality.

"The demo took place outside Parliament and was timed to coincide with Budget Day and International Women's Day."

There were speeches by Dave Prentis, general secretary of UNISON, and Peter Stefanovic, a lawyer and journalist, along with MPs.

"Last June at our previous demo there had been over two and a half thousand of us. This time there were nearly five thousand who simply could not be ignored!

"As we shouted louder and louder Martin Lewis appeared and briskly walked behind the barriers clapping us and congratulating us on our presence of mind to partake in such a stunt.

"He made an impromptu speech advising us to continue with our campaign and keep up with our fight!

"After the speakers had finished the Wales contingent was escorted inside Westminster where we met with many of our supportive MPs from around Wales.

"We left feeling that the day had been very well worthwhile with good media coverage."



Kay and fellow WASPIs took to the London streets dressed as suffragettes, and are pictured at the statue of Emmeline Pankhurst.

Hunt steeplechases this weekend

THE rearranged Brecon & Talybont Hunt fixture takes place at picturesque Llanfrynach on Sunday (first race 1pm); and in the Ladies' Open Race, for which there are 13 entries, *Get It On*, *Hold Court* and *Tony Star* – who finished in that order at last Sunday's Curre and Llangibby meeting – are down to run again.

However, an interesting entry is *Watch The Birdie*, a winner of its last three races last season.

There are eight down to run in the Men's Open Race, and these include Roger Willcox's useful *Patricktom Boru*, *Captain Camelot*, *High Hatton*, *Wild Bill* and *Rosies Peacock*.

Of the 12 down to run in the opening Confined Race, three of the entries – *Repeat Business*, *High Hatton* and *Tiger Rag* – are trained by the in-form Jonathan Tudor, who also has *High Hatton* and *Tiger Rag* in the PPORA Club.

Members' Conditions Race: an interesting entry here is Carmen Goldsworthy's *Captain Camelot*.

There are 11 entries for the Restricted and the Philip Mathias-trained *Glenteneasaigh* who led for a circuit at Howick and the Catherine Williams-trained *Catcher On The Go* are two to note.

With 27 down to run in the Open Maiden Race division on the day is possible. Tim Vaughan's *Moreece*, who has placed a couple of times this season under the promising Charlie Price and Paul Hamer's *Corbett Court*, are two who should be losing their maiden tags before the season ends.

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(ST ATHAN PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 2) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2017

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as St Athan Number 2 from throughout its length
Alt. Route	During this closure a diversion from the point of closure via Rectory Road, Llantwit Road and Higher End will be available.
Reason	To prevent danger to pedestrians, while construction work is carried out.
Duration	From 00.01Hrs on 24th March 2017 for a maximum period of six months.

Dated this 16th day of March 2017

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps Depot, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(LLWYBR CERDDED CYHOEDDUS SAIN TATHAN Rhif 2) (CAU DROS DRO) 2017

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn cynnig, mewn dim llai na 7 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATOLDEN 1

Ni fydd unrhyw un yn cerdded ar y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad	Y llwybr cerdded (Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus) a elwir yn Sain Tathan Rhif 2 ar ei hyd
Llwybr Amgen	TYn ystod y cyfnod hwn, bydd gwyriad o'r pwynt lle mae'r llwybr ar gau ar hyd Rectory Road, Llantwit Road a Higher End.
Rheswm	I atal peryglu cerddwyr wrth i'r gwaith adeiladu gael ei wneud.
Hyd	O 00.01am ar 24 Mawrth 2017 am hyd at chwe mis.

Dyddiedig 16 Mawrth 2017

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Tai a Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

LOCAL RIDER SURVIVES 'HORRIFIC' FALL

A HORSE rider who was in a coma for 10 days after a horrific fall has praised the flying doctors and hospital surgeons who saved her life.

Jan Hartland suffered severe chest injuries and a perforated lung after falling while riding last summer. Although she remained in Morriston Hospital until the autumn, the 64-year-old from Llanharan is now back in work.

With her own horse ill, Jan was on a friend's horse at Southerndown Common on August 31 last year.

"We were trotting but there was somebody else riding and they were galloping round and round, which set our horses off. I don't remember what happened but suddenly the horse was going faster and I was hanging off.

"The next thing I knew I was on the ground. My friend later told me I sat up and said I was okay and then I completely collapsed.

"A paramedic arrived and made the decision to call the air ambulance. He said I wouldn't survive if I went by road."

Jan had suffered a severe flail chest – a life-threatening condition where a segment of the rib cage breaks off and becomes detached from the rest of the chest wall – and a perforated lung, and was struggling to breathe.



X-ray showing the implants used to reposition and fix Jan's ribs.

The medics on board the Wales Air Ambulance charity helicopter who treated Jan were Dr Kate Stephens and critical care practitioner Chris Connor of EMRTS Cymru – Wales' flying doctors service. They gave Jan a blood transfusion and a series of powerful painkillers, then put a tube into her airway so she could be placed on a ventilator.

The crew also gave Jan an anaesthetic, as putting her to sleep reduced the risk of agitation and made the process of transfer to hospital by air more comfortable.

Only EMRTS Cymru can undertake these lifesaving treatments outside of a hospital environment.

The flight to Morriston Hospital took 20 minutes, a journey that would have taken twice as long by road.

Professor Pallister said: "In close liaison with intensive care doctors we operated on her ribs to reposition them correctly and fix them so she could begin to breathe normally again.

"We used implants – tiny, purpose-made plates and screws – to reposition her ribs.

"Jan did have some problems with infection but as she was previously very healthy she responded really well to treatment.

"She is very lucky to be alive. If it hadn't been for the EMRTS service she wouldn't have even made it to hospital."

Jan was in an induced coma for 10 days. She required two further operations because of the infection, and was in Morriston Hospital for five weeks before coming home in October.

"All the staff in Morriston's intensive care unit and all the doctors were absolutely brilliant.

"I was in Ward A after intensive care. It's a really busy ward but they were wonderful. They really took care of me and they were always cheerful and positive.

"I would also like to thank my local district nurses."

Jan has been given the all-clear and earlier this year returned to her part-time administration job with a cosmetics company.

She still experiences some muscle discomfort and has told husband Ian she will not ride horses again, but she knows it could have been much worse.

"The paramedic who was first at the scene saved my life by calling the air ambulance. Then the team on the helicopter continued to save my life.

"What Professor Pallister and his team did, saved my life as well. Every decision everybody made contributed to me being here now."



Jan Hartland.



Professor Ian Palliser.

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On a practical level, if your home has previously been extended or the drainage needs to be moved, it will take time to get the necessary approvals.
At Securahome we always project manage the approval process and expect local authority planning permission to take at least 10 weeks, with sewer agreements often involving a similar timescale.
All things considered, once you've made the decision to go ahead, it could take three or four months before you can put your feet up and enjoy your new room. However, having invested the time to design, plan and build it properly we think you'll agree that your new conservatory or orangery will be more than worth the wait!


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Vale Mayor's coffee morning cakes go down a treat on St David's Day





Anyone for a slice of cake?



Vale Mayor Coun Stuart Egan.

COFFEE, cake, and good cheer were the order of the day – when the Mayor of the Vale held a St David's Day coffee morning at University Hospital Llandough (UHL).

Mayor Coun Stuart Egan, who is also a Trade Union independent member of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, chose The Orchard Project and Penarth and District Lesotho Trust as the charities he wanted to support during his term in office.

The St David's Day coffee morning took place at the Plaza in UHL, where a variety of stalls distributing information and selling local fare such as jams, pickles, cakes, tea and coffee, along with the Mayor's own homemade Welsh cakes, which went down a storm. All proceeds from the event will be distributed between the two charities.

The Llandough Hospital Choir went along and performed a number of popular songs to visitors, patients and staff.

The Mayor said: "I'm really pleased to be able to support The Orchard Project. We are looking to transform 17 acres of land at the end of UHL into an orchard which will be fantastic.

"The vision for the project is mind-blowing. We'll have an orchard, raised allotment beds that the patients can look after, wild flower meadow, herb garden and beehives to provide honey.

"The funds raised from the coffee morning will be distributed to The Orchard Project and Penarth and District Lesotho Trust to support the local school and a home for single mothers.

"I feel very proud of this hospital (UHL); this area is my home and where my office is. I love the place. All the staff here are wonderful and a credit to the NHS. This hospital still has a community feel and I very much feel like part of the family.

"As part of my fundraising, I have launched a charity cookbook. I contacted many people throughout the health board and local community and asked them to send in their favourite family recipes to me to publish.

"I'd like to thank everyone for their continued support of these events."

The Mayor's cookbook is on sale with a recommended £3 donation to the charity. Copies are available at Mayoral events and in the Mayor's office in the Town Hall, Barry.

Changes to bus services in the Vale

THE following changes will be applied from Sunday, April 2, following a recent tender by the Vale Council for supported local bus services:

Service 88 (Barry–Penarth) will instead be provided by Easyway (01656 655655) from Monday, April 3, based on the existing timetable.

Service 90 (Barry–Culverhouse Cross M&S/Tesco) will instead be provided on a commercial basis (i.e. not under contract to the Vale Council) by Harton Coaches (01446 439749) from Monday April 3. Harton Coaches has slightly revised the current timetable to include Asda at Barry Waterfront.

Service 100 (Barry local Sunday service) will instead be provided by Cardiff Bus (029 20 66644) from Sunday, April 2 based on the existing timetable.

Service B3 (Barry local service) will instead be provided by Easyway (01656 655655) from Monday, April 3. The timetable has been slightly revised to re-route the service away from Pardoe Crescent and Neale Street and will instead run between Walker Road and Barry Road via Buttrills Road on certain journeys. In addition, the terminus (stopping point) of the service will also be moved from Porth-y-Castell to the Lakeside bus stop at the Knap, but continue to serve the Garden Suburb area.

All other Vale Council supported local bus services remain unchanged. Timetable information is available from www.traveline.cymru (0800 464 00 00) and also on the Council's website: www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Coastal Lives to air in April

THE new four-part series of Coastal Lives, featuring the Vale of Glamorgan, starts at 7.30pm on BBC1 Wales on Friday, April 7.

The show's producers hope there will be plenty of publicity for Fonmon Castle as an attraction, the Vale Show, and the wider Vale.

Careers fair at local college attracts over 500 students

MAJOR employers from across the region came to Cardiff and Vale College for a special fair, giving learners the chance to find out about future employment opportunities and career pathways.

Twenty-five companies, including the BBC, Deloitte, Principality, Admiral, the Celtic Manor, and more came to engage with students at the college's Barry campus and city centre campus. More than 500 students attended the three-day event.

CAVC head of recruitment, progression and entrepreneurship Tania Davies said: "We had excellent and enthusiastic support for the career fair from major employers who engaged with learners from across the college, informing them on job opportunities, career pathways and sector profiles."

Coffee morning

THERE will be a coffee morning at Murch Bowling Club, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys on Saturday, March 25, 10am-12noon.

Bric-a-brac, cake stall, nearly new stall, raffle etc. All proceeds in aid of Parkinsons UK.

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Double Grammy-award winner's praise for children's choirs

A DOUBLE Grammy award winner – who is also an adjudicator in this year's Côr Cymru competition – has been astonished by the standards of the choirs in Wales.



Christopher Tin believes the children's choirs have set an incredibly high standard for this year's competition.

The respected adjudicator's remarks come before the next episode of the S4C series on Sunday, March 19, featuring the children's choirs. Four of Wales' most talented children's choirs will be trying to impress him and his fellow adjudicators Maria Guinand from Venezuela and Oxford University's first Choral Professor, Edward Higginbottom.

Tin said: "For an American like myself, this competition is an eye-opening showcase of the depth and quality of the Welsh choral tradition. I'm particularly impressed by the young singers – the children and youth categories are full of radiant voices who sing with musicality and sophistication."

Côr Cymru is held every two years and has five categories. Four choirs won a place in the semi-finals of the children's choir section; Côr Iau Ieuenctid Môn, Côr Ieuenctid Môn, Ysgol Gerdd Ceredigion and Côr y Cwm from the Rhondda.

When the last Côr Cymru competition was held in 2015, children's choir Côr Heol y March near Cowbridge were the overall winners of the competition.

Two years later, the conductor of Côr Heol y March, Eleri Roberts, is still extremely proud of the win and considers it one of the highlights in the choir's history.

"Winning the Côr Cymru competition in 2015 was an amazing experience and it has given us an abundance of amazing opportunities," she said.

"The choir has had the opportunity to perform the work of Karl Jenkins, *Cantata Memoria*, and to sing in a concert with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, broadcast on BBC Radio 3. More recently we sang in a St David's Day reception at 10 Downing Street."

A prize of £4,000 is given to the overall winner of Côr Cymru. Côr Heol y March used the prize money to compete in another choral competition in Europe.

"We used the Côr Cymru prize money to take the choir to the International Choir Festival in Calelle, Spain, and we won. We also had the opportunity to sing in a friendship concert in Barcelona Cathedral, which was an unforgettable experience," said Ms Roberts.

Easter eggs for Ty Hafan

GREEN WILLOW FUNERALS, Cardiff-based funeral directors, are supporting Ty Hafan this Easter by collecting Easter eggs and gifts to donate to the hospice in Sully.

The main donation point will be their premises in Dinas Powys, run by funeral director, Jordan Tyler. Gifts can also be taken to any of their other offices or funeral homes.

The last date for donation is Friday, March 31.

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PUPILS' 'FANTASTIC' EISTEDDFOD AT PENDOYLAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

PENDOYLAN Church-in-Wales Primary School once again emjoyed a fantastic eisteddfod.

Headteacher Lyn Murray told The GEM : "Our congratulations go to the Reds (Cadoc House) for winning the 2017 eisteddfod.

"It was the closest it has been for a very long time and we thank every pupil and parent whi helped to make it such a *'bendigedig'* day.

"The home competition entries were wonderful and the standard of work completed in school, plus the recital and song performances impressed us all.

"We're so lucky to have such a talented lot! In particular, our creative writing competition winner, and this year's bard, James Collingridge, who wins the coveted annual Chair."















Women's Fellowship Group

COWBRIDGE Women's Fellowship Group meet in the Church Hall, Llanblethian on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

A varied annual programme includes interesting guest speakers, demonstrations, lunches and, of course, tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes with everything!

New members and visitors are very welcome. Contact Hazel Coates on 01443 226412 or Georgina Magnay on 01446 774335.

Fashion with the Scouts

COWBRIDGE Scout group are holding a fashion show at Costa Coffee. Fashion is by Fat Face and Samantha B of Ewenny.

The date is March 31 and doors open 7pm to start at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 and £6 for children, to include a drink and a cake.

Tickets on sale at Fat Face, Samantha B or at the door. Also any scout member. Please come and have a fun evening and support us!

WHAT'S ON - News in brief

Spring supper

ON Saturday, March 25 at 7:30pm in Llanblethian church hall all are welcome to join an evening of plentiful food and wine, with all profit used to boost the village defibrillator fund.

Tickets £15 from the Cross Inn or email llanblethiancg@gmail.com

Llantwit councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independents will hold a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, March 18 from 9.30am – 11.30am. Residents who wish to raise any issue are welcome to attend.

Gordon's love of art remains undimmed – even though he only has use of one eye

FORMER miner, Gordon Farmer, who Max Boyce once dubbed 'The Picasso of the Garw Valley', continues to delight people on social media – and GEM readers of course – with his portraits.

by TIM CHAPMAN

Here, he captures 'Man's Best Friend'.

Gordon Farmer (77) turned to 'pencil portraiture' late in life as a means of keeping his mind off the pain caused by injuries inflicted in an industrial accident.

Three years ago, his exhibition – 'Face to Face' – ran over two days at the Blaengarw Workmen's Hall and was a snapshot of Welsh culture over the previous 50 years.

Anthony Hopkins, Ray Gravell, JPR, Stanley Baker, Ruth Jones, Shane Williams, Rob Brydon and Tom Jones jostled with evocative sketches of miners working in cramped tunnels and tight to the coalface.

Gordon was born at Bryn Cottages, Pontyrhrn and has lived in the Garw Valley all his life.

He worked as a miner for 12 years, was later employed at a manufacturing company and went on to work as a security guard in local quarries – ending up getting badly injured by a metal sign which blew over in high winds.

In retirement, art became his consolation.

Nowadays, he produces his work despite the handicap of being blind in his right eye.

"In 2003, I went down to the clinic in Coity for an eye check and the woman asked me whether I'd driven down. When I said 'yes' she said 'give me the keys, you're not driving any more'."

Despite his handicap, Gordon makes the most of his good eye and bifocal glasses.

"I tend to draw for about five hours a day. Two hours early in the morning, another two hours at around five or six o'clock, and then I often do an hour or so late in the evening.

"I can't go on for any longer than two hours because my eye gets tired."

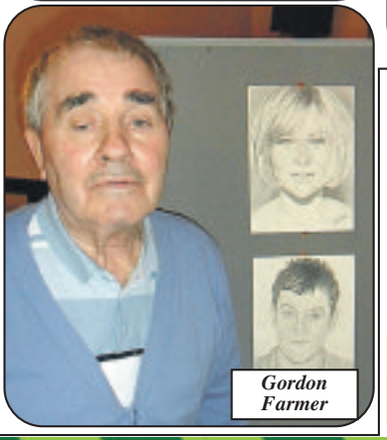
Over the years his reputation as a local artist has grown and he was thrilled when he had the opportunity to present Max Boyce with a portrait of the popular entertainer.

"He shook my hand and said: 'You're the Picasso of the Garw Valley!"









Gordon Farmer

AM meets fisheries police team in Milford Haven

IT was a surprise meeting of three Maestegians in Milford Haven when Huw Irranca-Davies, Assembly Member for Ogmore, visited a fisheries enforcement vessel in Milford Haven harbour, as part of a Welsh Assembly committee enquiry.

His committee were investigating marine and fisheries issues off west Wales, and as part of the inquiry were meeting the Welsh Government's fisheries enforcement team.

Accompanying Mr Irranca-Davies was Rebecca Ackerman, a former Maesteg School student now studying politics in Leicester University, who was shadowing him for a week.

They boarded the vessel in Milford Haven and were met by key fisheries enforcement officer Matthew Dawkins, who showed them around the vessel and explained the work of the enforcement team.

Mr Irranca-Davies said: "The work of our fisheries enforcement teams is critical in making sure we have sustainable fisheries now and long into the future. I've met Matthew before to draw on his huge experience in fisheries enforcement and management, but it was a real bonus to meet him on board his place of work.

"For Rebecca, I think it was a real eye-opener to see how the influence of people from 'back home' spreads to all parts of Wales, and all walks of life. Matthew is an inspiration in the work he does, and I hope our young people from Ogmore are inspired to follow their talents wherever that takes them."





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THE VALE COUNCIL JOINS THE CITY DEAL CONSORTIUM

THE Vale Council and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) have joined eight other local authorities in putting together a deal designed to stimulate economic growth.

The £1.2 billion Cardiff Capital Region City Deal aims to transform the economy of south east Wales and was formally ratified during a special ceremony held earlier this month.

The Cardiff City Deal plans to unlock significant economic growth across the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR), which includes the 10 local authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, The Vale of Glamorgan and Torfaen.

The leaders of the 10 local authorities within the CCR signed the City Deal document in a ceremony at Cardiff Airport, following universal support from all ten councils for the programme.

The City Deal includes funding of £734m for the South Wales Metro, of which over £500 million is provided by the Welsh Government and £125m from the UK Government .

The UK Government has provided a £375m contribution, and the 10 local authorities have agreed a commitment to borrow a combined total of £120million as part of the Wider Investment Fund.

The Vale Council is contributing £17.9 million. This includes the cost of repaying any loans plus the interest on those loans.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "This does assume that the council borrows the monies required to fund our share of the costs.

"How the council will fund the allocation will be reviewed and included as part of the forward financial planning process for the council."

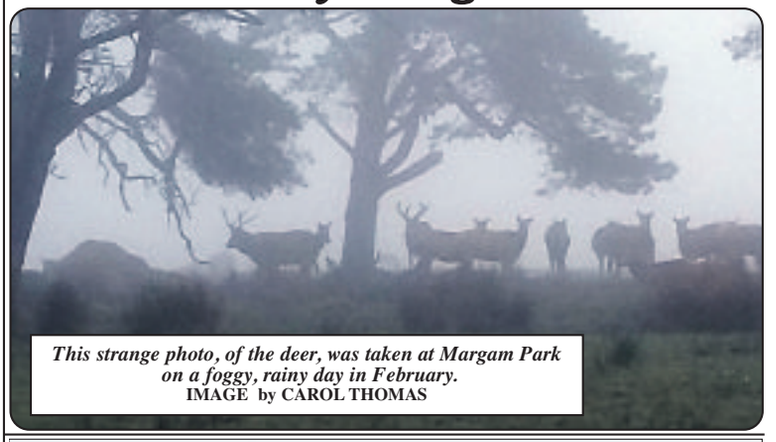
BCBC's contribution is £11.28 million, and it is intended that this will be borrowed and repaid over 10 years.

The transition phase will also see the creation and development of three advisory bodies to the Regional Cabinet – the CCR Economic Growth Partnership, a region-wide business representation organisation and an Employment and Skills Board, and one delivery body, the Regional Transport Authority.

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones said: "I'm delighted that the landmark £1.2bn Cardiff Capital Region City Deal has been formally ratified.

"The Welsh Government's contribution of over £500m in funding for the Metro was instrumental in securing the deal. The Metro will be key to delivering our plans to improve transport connectivity and economic prosperity in the region."

Mysterious deer are captured at a misty Margam Park



This strange photo, of the deer, was taken at Margam Park on a foggy, rainy day in February.
IMAGE by CAROL THOMAS

Surface of A48 road called into question

Welsh Assembly Member, Andrew RT Davies, is calling for improvements to be made to the A48 road between Culverhouse Cross and Bridgend following a spate of accidents.

The Welsh Conservatives' leader raised the "appalling condition" of the road at the National Assembly. He told Leader of the House and Vale AM Jane Hutt that six accidents had occurred on the road the previous week.

Mr Davies said: "When you have six accidents on a stretch of road, there is a cause for concern, I would suggest.

"Thankfully, no-one was killed, but there were some serious injuries. The surface of that road is in an appalling condition, with several very deep potholes."

He asked Ms Hutt what maintenance work is required on the road and what safety measures can be implemented to alleviate some of the traffic hazards.

Ms Hutt said she was of course aware of the accidents to which Mr Davies had referred.

She said there had been a sharp and unexpected frost, but roads were gritted by the Vale Council.

Ms Hutt told Mr Davies consideration will be given to the condition of the A48.

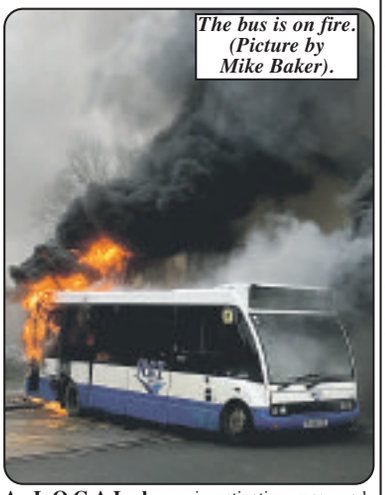
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AM raises safety concerns after blaze



The bus is on fire. (Picture by Mike Baker).

A LOCAL bus caught fire last Thursday, just after 9.30am on Thursday, March 16, at the bus station behind Cowbridge Town Hall.

The bus is operated by New Adventure Travel and there were no reports of any passengers being on the bus at the time.

However, South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has voiced his concerns. He said it was vital that a proper investigation was made to determine the cause of the incident and to ensure that any necessary changes take place.

Mr Davies said: "This may have been an isolated incident, but it is nonetheless serious that a bus caught fire and it is vital it is investigated properly.

"We must get to the bottom of the incident to put passengers' minds at rest and ensure that they can travel safely."

A spokesman for New Adventure Travel said: "The incident is currently under investigation".

Undeb Credyd Cymru Credit Union Wales

NOTICE TO MEMBERS of Bridgend Lifesavers Credit Union Ltd

Annual General Meeting

To be held on Thursday 30th March 2017 from 7pm, at the Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre, Merfield Close, Sarn, Bridgend, CF32 9SW.

Nomination forms and further details available by contacting 01656 729912.

Janice Lewis, Secretary, On behalf of Board Of Directors.
(www.blscu.co.uk)

News from the apiary at Fonmon

WINTER is definitely giving way to spring and the colonies are busy foraging on the catkins, celandines, and even the few dandelions that are appearing.

All of the colonies, with the exception of No 3 look vigorous; so far, no colony has been opened up and at the first opportunity (sunny dry day) No 3 will be opened and assessed. There are bees in this colony coming and going, but they appear somewhat sluggish.

Losses during winter are not unusual, not all colonies have the vigour to withstand the winter slowdown.

It has to be remembered that honeybees do not hibernate as do other members of the bee world.

Given temperatures around 10ºC, they will venture outside of the hive. These days, there always seems to be something in flower for the bees to find and each external investigation requires the expenditure of energy; this is supplied from the stores within the hive, i.e. honey or pollen.

However, outside sources of food are not guaranteed, and the beekeeper must ensure that each colony has sufficient stores to see them through the months of reduced external energy sources. Let us not forget that the honeybee's principal task is as a pollinator – and not to provide honey for the beekeeper!

Flowers produce nectar and pollen as an inducement to all pollinators and in doing so, ensure the survival of not only their species, but that of the insects doing the pollinating.

Given fair weather, the honeybee works very assiduously and will continue to do so with no period reached when they say 'that is enough!'

If the blooms are out there and the weather remains kind, the colonies accumulate more than they require to see them through the winter, and this excess can be utilised by yours truly, the beekeeper!

But all in the garden is not rosy! The countryside is much depleted when it comes to flora and fauna.

The reduction in insect numbers can be gauged by the fact that these days very few motorists have to spend time cleaning dead insects from their windscreens.

What are we going to do about this sad state of affairs?

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Barry pupils will set off to volunteer in Sri Lanka

ON July 1, Barry Comprehensive School's Team Sri Lanka 2017 will be departing for the Gampaha district of Sri Lanka.

Instead of heading for the beach, the group of sixth form students and teachers will be volunteering their time to teach in a local school and visit orphanages, a deaf and blind school and various other institutions that house vulnerable people.

The team's fundraising goal is £10,000 and part of this money will be used to purchase teaching materials, toys, sports equipment and art and crafts materials, for the Help Lanka charity and the children and adults that they will meet during the trip.

Alun Cairns MP, a supporter and donor to Help Lanka, recently visited the school to speak to the sixth formers about their upcoming trip and to pledge his support to the fundraising effort.

During his visit, he talked about his own recollections of the Boxing Day tsunami in 2004 that gave rise to the charity and watched a presentation from last year's touring party.

Mr Cairns said: "It was fantastic to see the enthusiasm the students had for helping others in need so far away. Their dedication is truly impressive."

In order to meet their fundraising goal, the team is looking for local businesses and key stakeholders to sponsor or donate gifts in aid of a number of upcoming fundraising events. These include a Race Night at the school on March 24 a quiz night, a pop up car wash, a summer ball and a car boot sale.

If you are interested in attending or sponsoring a horse, race or table at the upcoming Race Night, or getting involved in another event, contact Damon Williams or Charlotte Bowkett at Barry Comprehensive School on 01446 411411.

Nominate your Tenovus volunteer

NOMINATIONS for the 2017 Tenovus Cancer Care Volunteer Awards are now open.

The annual awards recognise the contribution of volunteers to Tenovus Cancer Care and the difference they make to the lives of cancer patients and their loved ones. The charity has almost 2,000 volunteers across the country.

There are seven award categories, five of which are based on the values of Tenovus Cancer Care: Creative, Respectful, Bold, Supportive and Inspiring.

Awards are also presented for Young Volunteer of the Year, a Group award, and an overall award for Volunteer of the Year.

If there's a volunteer you admire for their commitment and dedication to Tenovus Cancer Care, nominate them by visiting *www.tenovuscancercare.org.uk* or call at your nearest Tenovus Cancer Care shop.

If you or someone you love has been affected by cancer, Tenovus Cancer Care can offer help and support. To find out more call the Tenovus Cancer Care free Support Line on 0808 808 1010 or visit tenovuscancercare.org.uk

£75,000 to 'help Vale recycle more'

THE Welsh Government is awarding £75,000 to the Vale Council to help increase the amount of waste it recycles and ensure Wales remains ahead of the rest of the UK when it comes to recycling.

The funding will be used to "invest in new technologies to update recycling methods, increase recycling rates and improve value for money".

The Welsh Government is providing up to £3 million funding to eight local authorities across Wales through its 'Collaborative Change' programme.

The announcement comes as a new report puts Wales as the 'third best recycling nation in the world'.

Business is Booming on Bridgend's Industrial Estates

Professionals - Just a stone's throw away

It pays to check out Bridgend's estate experts!

THERE is no getting away from the fact that the name 'industrial estate' brings to mind factories and the like – but there is much more to the industrial estates around Bridgend than manufacturing facilities.

The wide variety of businesses now operating from these bases have made such estates an important part of the south Wales retail mix.

After all, Bridgend's proximity to the M4 means that it is well within the range of customers from the east and west – customers who would not normally pencil in Bridgend.

The result is that more and more businesses believe that basing themselves on one of Bridgend's industrial estates is a great way of making themselves available to a wide population.

They factor in the probability of attracting customers from Swansea (to the west) and Cardiff (to the east) when deciding to come to Bridgend.

This was certainly a factor for Dainton Self Storage, who can be found in the Coity Road Industrial Estate.

Dainton has taken the concept of self storage and has added a host of other features that can help local businesses.

For so many growing businesses (and established ones too) flexibility is the key, and Dainton offer a number of services with this mind.

They even have 'start up' office space available, and supply portable buildings too.

(For full details, see the advert on the facing page.)

Industrial estates around Bridgend come in different shapes and sizes, but the Bridgend Industrial estate is surely the biggest.

In World War Two, it was the home of the massive armaments factory that was Bridgend's contribution to the war effort.

The estate is flat, with good roads and a 'retail quarter' – although many businesses outside that quarter also welcome retail customers.

Space means that businesses can show their products to its best advantage, and this is another reason why industrial estates are becoming so popular in this day and age.

(CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE).

You're in safe hands at Bridgend Dental Surgery

BRIDGEND Dental Surgery is a private practice, opened in April 2016 by experienced practitioners, Dr Zoe Clarke and Colin Rees.

The practice boasts excellent, modern facilities; parking right outside and easy access.

Colin, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh, has over 25 years of experience in general dentistry and also in oral surgery and implantology, and we offer a comprehensive dental service at the practice.

We welcome all new patients, feel we cater for nervous patients especially well, and have facilities to carry out dentistry at home for those who can't make it to the practice.

Call in and see us soon!



Business is Booming on Bridgend's Industrial Estates

Professionals - Just a stone's throw away

Putting customers first is second nature to traders

(CONTINUED FROM FACING PAGE)

One company that made the move from the town centre to a trading estate, are Riverside Hardware – and they have never looked back.

It was 16 years ago that they settled in the Bridgend Industrial Estate, opening a massive warehouse of 7,500 sq ft, and a combination of word of mouth and advertising soon brought customers from as far afield as Newport, Brecon, Cardiff and Pontypridd.

The company even exports to Sri Lanka.

Owner Ryan Woodbridge told The GEM that the key had been a comprehensive stock covering general engineering, from tools to fasteners. (*For more details, see their advert on page 18*).

He said: "We have grown and are now the largest supplier of Draper Tools in the area, and are a premier dealer for Napoleon Barbecues.

"We are also the fastest-growing Calor gas dealer in south Wales."

A more recent arrival, also at Bridgend industrial Estate, is Keltic Fires.

Director Matt Richards told The GEM that they were approaching their second 'birthday' in Bridgend (in July), and that their performance on the estate had exceeded expectations.

He said: "As more and more people have got to know about us, and realised what we had to offer, we have been really busy."

He added that, of course, winter was always the busiest time, but that spring and summer was a very good time to plan ahead.

Matt said: "Trends do change so we have to be adaptable, but customers value the professional advice they get here.

"At the moment, our most popular lines are wood-burning fires, and high-end gas fires."

(*For more details, see their advert below*).

In contrast, Action Doors have been on the Bridgend Industrial Estate for 25 years, and they have used that time to build up a massive stock of garage doors and associated spare parts – not forgetting the expertise that comes with all those years in the business.

Director Adrian Collins feels their time on the estate has been well spent and – to celebrate that 25th anniversary – Action Doors is offering a 25 per cent discount on all products – just one more reason to pay a visit!

Bridgend Industrial Estate has its own retail quarter, of course, and that is where you will find the Bridgend Dental Surgery, which opened in April 2016.

Dr Zoe Clarke and Colin Rees have years of experience between them, and their decision to invest in modern premises speaks volumes for their confidence in their new location.

For too long, some potential customers of any business on an industrial estate have been put off by the outdated image of such estates. (*For more details, see their advert on the facing page.*)

Bridgend is dotted with modern estates, where so many businesses ply their trade – all offering easy free parking and good facilities to customers they value.

In return, you get none of the hassle of 'town centre shopping' and what's more, you never know what other business you will spot as you travel around the estate.

The world of retail is constantly changing, but the key is still finding expertise and good value – and there is plenty to be found around Bridgend!

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ACTION DOORS are based in Bridgend, but their 25 years in business means that they have specialist teams who cover all of south Wales.

They offer installations, or supply only, on all makes of residential garage doors, and have a 24-hour emergency repair service.

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The company specialises in electric garage doors and offers realistic prices for electric conversions.

They also manufacture roller shutter doors and, with the introduction of their own in-house forming mill, they can provide a same day repair service for most impact damaged doors.

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Dainton Self Storage: Helping local businesses with commercial storage, office space, and support services

DAINTON Self Storage offer their business customers more than just commercial storage. The secure and flexible drive-up storage units are certainly popular with all kinds of businesses, from tradesmen to retailers.

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Businesses take advantage of Dainton's commercial services to store seasonal stock, office furniture, paperwork and more. There is secure storage for vehicles and machinery, while small businesses use the storage units as distribution points.

Dainton's Coity Road site also has 12 offices that are aimed at helping Bridgend's budding entrepreneurs, start-up companies and small businesses.

Dainton's Bridgend manager, Darren Griffiths, said: "Many small businesses and start-ups outgrow their home premises and need more space to expand.

"We can provide those businesses with the opportunity for growth without the overheads of crippling business rates or being locked into a long-term contract.

"We understand that flexibility and competitiveness are key to small and medium sized businesses, so we offer commercial services to support our storage customers and office tenants."

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The portable buildings come in all shapes and sizes, can be used on building sites as welfare units, kitchens, toilets and shower blocks and they make excellent additional space for use as a classroom, office space, pop up shop or cafe.

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Self Storage



Call 01656 750293, email bridgend@dainton.com or visit us at Coity Road, Bridgend, CF31 1NS

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A NATIONAL ACCOLADE FOR CADOXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL!



Back row: Paige Webber, Bethan Baynhan, Aeron Hicks. Front row: Zac Merrifield and Jak Fitzpatrick.



Mum Jo Burns with daughter Evie-Jean.

A NATIONAL accolade for quality has been awarded to Cadoxton Primary School in Barry for improving the well-being, resilience, and self-esteem of pupils vulnerable to under-achievement.

The Quality Mark Award recognises the impressive work being done by the school to improve progress in reading, writing and maths for all pupils, particularly those with additional learning needs, a spokesperson reports.

The award has been developed by leading education charity Achievement for All (AfA), which offers support programmes to schools and settings to help them improve outcomes in the lowest achieving 20 per cent.

Cadoxton Primary has been working in partnership with Achievement for All since January 2014 and has seen a marked improvement in many aspects, including working with parents on children's targets.

Janet Hayward, headteacher at Cadoxton Primary School, said: "We are delighted to receive the Quality Award as recognition for our hard work and success at closing the gap due to social disadvantage.

"Parents and teachers working together, have had a positive impact on the children's progress and self-esteem."

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS, 1999
RHEOLIADAU CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (ASESIAD EFFAITH AMGYLCHEDDOL) (CYMRU A LLOEGR), 1999

NOTICE is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council, as Local Planning Authority, has determined the following application(s), having taken into account the information contained within the Environmental Impact Assessment accompanying the application(s):

Rhoddir HYSBYSIAD drwy hyn bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, fel Awdurdod Cynllunio Lleol, wedi penderfynu ar y cais/ceisiadau a ganlyn, ar ôl ystyried y wybodaeth yn yr Asesiad Effaith Amgylcheddol sy'n ategu'r cais/ceisiadau canlynol:

Application No.:/	
Rhif y Cais:	2014/00228/EAO
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access, for development comprising class B1, B2 and B8 uses; a hotel/residential training centre (class C1/C2); and ancillary uses within class A1, A2, A3; associated engineering and ground modelling works and infrastructure, car parking, drainage and access for all uses; provision of infrastructure (including energy centre(s)); landscaping and all ancillary enabling works
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land south of Junction 34, M4, Hensol
Decision:/	
Penderfyniad:	Approved 22 June, 2016
Application No.:/	
Rhif y Cais:	2015/00852/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Installation of small scale c. 3MW ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays with inverter houses, switchgear cabin, internal access track, landscaping, fencing, security measures, access gate and ancillary infrastructure
Location:/Lleoliad:	Home Farm, land west of Drope Road, St. Georges Super Ely
Decision:/	
Penderfyniad:	Approved 14 January, 2016
Application No.:/	
Rhif y Cais:	2016/00305/RG3
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Proposal is for on line improvements to the existing A4226 between Waycock Cross Roundabout in Barry and the lay-by to the north of the Welsh Hawking Centre and an off line new road provision to the east of the existing A4226 which will reconnect with the existing A4226 just to the south of Blackland Farm
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent A4226, Five Mile Lane, Barry
Decision:/	
Penderfyniad:	16 December, 2016

Documents and details of the decision, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision was based, may be inspected free of charge in the Planning Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Offices, Barry Docks, Barry. CF63 4RT during normal office hours or via http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/

Gellir archwilio dogfennau a manylion y penderfyniad, y prif resymau a'r ystyriaethau a arweiniodd at y penderfyniad am ddim yn yr Adran Gynllunio, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Dociau, Dociau y Barri, Y Barri CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau arferol neu http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk

Dated: 16 March, 2017

Mrs. V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry.
CF63 4RT

'Scrapping right to buy will hurt aspiration'

— SAYS WELSH TORY LEADER

THE Welsh Government's decision to end the right-to-buy scheme will damage social mobility, South Wales Central regional AM, Andrew RT Davies, claimed this week.

Pointing out that many families in the area had only got on the housing ladder because of the scheme – introduced under Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s – the Welsh Conservative Leader said he feared the scheme would take the opportunity away from future generations.

"There are few prouder moments than owning your own home, and here in the Vale many families were able to do so because of right-to-buy. Without it, home ownership was nothing more than a pipe dream.

"The Welsh Government's decision shows that Labour are the enemies of aspiration. They are putting ideology before helping people get on in life.

"The Welsh Conservatives oppose this short-sighted policy and we will work hard to deliver a Wales that works for everyone."

Advice surgery

THE Court First Independent team will be holding their regular advice surgery this Saturday, March 18, in the community room at Barry Library on King Square.

Couns Richard and Robert Bertin, along with local campaigner Andy Griffiths, will be available to speak to any residents between 2pm and 3pm.

No appointments are necessary.

Bonvilston AGM

THE AGM of Bonvilston Reading Room will be held on Thursday, March 23 at 7.30pm (in the Reading Room) for a review of 2016, the presentation of the accounts and the election of the committee.

Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served.



Bridgend 'Western/ National Welsh' 25th anniversary reunion proves a huge success







NATIONAL Welsh Omnibus Services – often referred to as National Welsh – operated in south-east Wales and in the Forest of Dean from 1978 until 1992.

To mark 25 years since the company ceased operations in February 1992, Norman Chinnock, formerly an inspector at National Welsh Bridgend, organised a reunion at Bridgend Railway Club.

Mr Chinnock – who now lives in Scotland – said: "Many thanks to The GEM for helping to make it the success it turned out to be. Over 40 former employees turned out, with ages ranging from 80 plus to young 50s.

"A great night was had by all, with lots of old stories and memories – many that would not have been out of place on the TV series *On The Buses!"*

glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Macmillan raffle



PENSIONERS living at Arthur Davis Court, in Barry, have held a raffle for Macmillan, in memory of Paul Stringer, a well-respected resident, who died last year.

The raffle was organised by Sandra Rehman, whose strenuous efforts raised £380. She was unable to attend the presentation and was wished a speedy return to health.

The proceeds were presented to Lance Osgood from Macmillan by Chris Murrell.

OPEN WEEKEND TOLD THE STORY OF THE WARTIME ESCAPE FROM HUT 9













PHOTOGRAPHS
by **GLYN EVANS**

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

Email: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

THE site of the former Second World War German prisoner-of-war camp at Island Farm, Bridgend, was opened to the public recently, as the Hut 9 Preservation Group staged their first open weekend of 2017, on March 11-12.

A total of 630 visitors took the opportunity to visit the scene of the famous 'German Great Escape' and were entertained by volunteers, who told them more about the history of the site. The former World War Two camp is sealed to visitors for much of the time, but several times each year the locked doors of the hut from which this escape was made, are opened to allow hundreds of visitors a rare look inside this unique building.

Members of the Hut 9 Preservation Group and over 50 'living historians', dressed in period uniforms, gave talks and guided tours inside the hut. A number of period military vehicles were also on site. Military historians were on hand to tell visitors about the history of the buildings, from their occupation by female workers at the nearby ordnance factory to the housing of hundreds of German prisoners of war. Also on display were original wall paintings made by the occupants over 70 years ago and rescued from some of the now-demolished huts.

Brett Exton gave illustrated talks on the history of the site, and Dr Jonathan Hicks told visitors about the work of the group since its formation in 2012, and also gave an insight into that famous night in March 1945 when 70 German prisoners made their bid for freedom.

A spokesman said: "Every penny donated by visitors at these special openings is spent on improving the visitor experience. In the last two years, under the guidance of group member Wayne Gill, the group has renovated a nearby derelict building to convert it into a visitor centre and this building now contains a re-creation of the night that 70 Germans escaped through a tunnel dug from one of the rooms in Hut 9.

The group has also worked hard to kit out the rooms inside Hut 9 to give visitors an insight into its fascinating past and another newly-furbished room was opened for the first time for this event.

A replica guard tower has been constructed by the group and a replica NAAFI café, staffed by volunteers, provided refreshments, while group member Stel Anthony recorded the memories of visitors who remembered the site in its heyday.

Dr Hicks said: "It was apparent from the hundreds of positive comments made by our visitors that they value the work we have done to keep alive this important piece of Welsh history. The open weekend was fully booked up months in advance, which gives some idea of the scale of public interest in this historic site.

"All 300 tickets for our June 10 event have already been reserved. I am now taking bookings for our October event, and half of the 600 tickets have already been snapped up. The interest in our work is phenomenal."

Donations to the Hut 9 voluntary group, which is seeking to ensure the future of the site, are welcomed and allow the group to make even more improvements to the building and surrounding area.

To reserve a place on the Hut 9 tours on October 7 and 8, email Dr Hicks at: bookings@hut9.org.uk. Details of the tours are also available via the group's website: www.hut9.org.uk.

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3 Course Sunday Lunch and a gift for Mum

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£19.95 inc. glass of Prosecco

Booking essential

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GEM READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

'The people of Barry unite!'

ON Saturday, February 4, I was lucky enough to be one of the 750 or so ticket holders who attended what can be only described as the best night out in a long while.

The relatively unheard-of Vale Sports Arena off Penarth Road hosted the first of many (I hope) well-executed, accessible, and superb events. It is an excellent venue.

'Keyboard Warriors' started off as a bit of friendly banter via social media. Jamie Butler and Jimmy Camilleri – two well-known local Barry boys – began something so big no one could have predicted its enormity and success.

Under the steady guidance and unwavering professionalism of Alan Lamb, local baker and well known boxing coach, along with corner men Lee Froud and Leon Lamb, and their teams, they took each other on in the ring!

It was all for charity – rather them than me!

Among those in the teams taking part were Jamie Butler, Jimmy Camilleri, Glenn Price, Steven Davies, Dean Brailsford, Michael Cutajar, Casey Thompson, Will Lewis, Dean Lewis, Nathan Cayton, Andrew Hurley, Kyed Ahmed, Nigel Batt, Gareth Griffiths, Steen Ross, Neil Avient, Ryan Butler, Milan Bjegovic, Anthony Lewis and Mikey Harris.

The evening was superbly organised and the atmosphere electric. Local people volunteered their skills and helped out in all areas, such as security, tickets sales, donating raffle prizes and selling raffle tickets, marshalling and staffing the bars at the actual venue.

However, we mustn't forget the lads who trained so hard to raise a staggering £13,060 for the local, and very worthy charity Ty Hafan. Jamie Butler's mum works for Ty Hafan, so he has seen all too well how heavily the hospice relies on donations such as this.

So the next time you hear people making unfounded derogatory remarks about Barry – please remind them that just under 1,000, essentially Barry and district people, gathered that night to support these brave lads and there wasn't a hint of trouble.

In fact, all the comments and feedback I have heard are of unending praise and positivity of what can be achieved – remember when it matters, Barry people unite – FACT.

Well done, everyone! I speak on behalf of most people, I am sure, when I say you are all champions in our eyes.

Win, lose or draw, you all deserve a medal. I for one am immensely proud of Barry town and its people!

When is the next one then, boys? I can't wait!

Emma Jane Brown
(a supporter of Barry)

NHS and EU doctors' tests

LAST January, Dr Max Pemberton published an article about the NHS, which ended: ***"Either way, the truth is that the NHS hiring system is unable to do proper checks to ensure that health staff who come from fellow EU countries are capable of doing the job. There is no requirement for language tests, or even a test of basic medical competency."***

Doctor friends tell me that since the Dr Urbani debacle, EU doctors are subject to assessment, and I am glad to be corrected.

Less comfortingly, evidently Dr Pemberton's comments were aimed elsewhere in the NHS.

R Bradshaw,
Cowbridge.

'UNELECTED LORDS TRYING TO THWART DEMOCRATIC WILL OF THE PEOPLE'

DESPITE being on opposite sides of the argument when it comes to the democratic choice of Great Britain to leave the EU, I am happy to say that both Ian Perry and I agree on one point: the Government is failing us, and miserably.

Although personally campaigning to remain in the EU, the PM, Theresa May does seem to be working towards carrying out the will of the people and implementing our wish to leave this political project.

However, had she not delayed and actually started the process last June then much of the delaying tactics that the Government now faces would not have been able to formulate.

The date for 'pressing the Article 50 button' she said was 2017. Then it slid to March 2017, and now it's the end of March 2017.

The unelected cronies in the once respected House of Lords, many of whom have EU pensions, are also doing their best to undermine our negotiation position and tie the elected MPs' hands.

Our once proud fishing industry is also being let down, and looks to be sacrificed as a pawn during negotiations.

Now we see remoaners spending £70k on posters saying: *'We didn't vote for this'*.

That message works both ways, as we never voted for what the EU has now become, and wants to be in the future.

Why does what was mooted as a free trade area want to push to have its own army – and if the rumours are correct, its own nuclear weapons?

This is scary stuff, and Europe needs to do all it can to stop this before it gets out of hand.

A vote for Brexit was a step in the right direction, and a French 'Frexit' followed by a Dutch 'Nexit' will further help to scupper Juncker's military plans.

Personally, I wish they'd spent their cash on providing some shelter for Cardiff's record homeless, rather than fighting a battle that has long since moved on.

Which brings me to why in my letter I quoted a figure from the BBC, which itself seems intent, just like Mr Perry, on fighting once more that same battle.

The country voted to leave the EU: now our Government need to simply get on and do the job we asked them to do.

Ade Pitman,
Barry.


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*Fares are one way including taxes and charges, only available on flybe.com, subject to availability. Route operated by Blue Islands. Book by midnight on 19.03.17 for travel between 2.05.17 and 30.09.2017 inclusive. Any ticket/itinerary changes may be subject to collection of the difference between the discounted fare and the full fare, plus itinerary change fees. Discount cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. No debit card fees apply. Bookings made by credit card or PayPal will incur a fee of 3% of the total transaction value, with a minimum charge of £5.00 per booking.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Legal advice

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a free legal advice session on Tuesday, March 21 from 10am to 12 pm at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

If you are worried about a legal matter (other than criminal law) come along and have a chat to a member of a legal team. No appointment is needed; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Art exhibition

THERE will be an open studio on Saturday and Sunday, March 25-26. Free admission, tea and coffee; all welcome.

Call 07854375891 or see *www.glynpooley.com* for further details.

'PARK TIDY!' CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED



Coun King (left) and a civil parking enforcement officer launch the campaign.

A NEW campaign has been launched to tackle problem parking in the Vale.

Throughout 2017, the Vale Council will be encouraging all drivers to 'Park Tidy!' as part of the campaign which will run across social media.

Coun Peter King, cabinet member for building Services, Highways and Transportation, said: "We know that inconsiderate and dangerous parking is a source of great frustration for Vale residents.

"As is so often the case, it is only a small minority who put others at risk. This campaign aims to do two things.

"First, highlight the dangers of inappropriate parking to prompt people to think twice before doing it. Second, make it easier for responsible motorists to report problem parking and in turn for us to take action as a result of it.

"Typical hotspots for irresponsible parking are outside schools and near busy junctions. These will be areas that we will focus on.

"We also plan to raise awareness of the difficulties that parking across dropped kerbs and on pavements can cause for others. We hope that by showing drivers how to Park Tidy, we can reduce incidences of inconsiderate parking in the Vale, and with this the need for enforcement action."

Problem parking in the Vale can be reported online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/parking or by calling Contact One Vale on 01446 700111.

'Bollards for Barry' backed by Bertin

BARRY councillor Richard Bertin has joined local residents calling for bollards to be installed at either end of a footpath in the town.

Residents living around Maple Close and Longmeadow Drive are calling for bollards to be installed to stop vehicles driving down the footpath near their property.

Coun Bertin (Independent) reported that one resident, Andrew Davies, felt the Vale Council needed to install the bollards as vehicles have been driving down the path dangerously, while pedestrians and children use the path as a short cut to Dyfan Road.

Another resident, Gerald Whitaker, was also supporting calls for the council to take urgent action adding that it was only a matter of time before "something seriously happens to people using the path."

Coun Bertin said: "I fully support the residents in their campaign to have these bollards installed. Having been to visit the site I can understand just how much of a problem this is."

He is now going to approach the Vale Council on the matter.

VALE PACT

GIBBONSDOWN *– meet your local neighbourhood team at Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry every Monday between 10am and 12 noon.*

BUTTRILLS PACT *at the Town Council Offices, Barry Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road, Barry on Thursday, March 16 at 6.30pm.*

CASTLELAND PACT *at Morrisons Supermarket on Saturday, March 18 at 10am.*

ST BRIDES *coffee and chat at the Fox and Hounds, St Brides on Thursday, March 30 at 11am.*

For the latest news from your area, visit our website - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

CARDIFF ROAD, BARRY INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

More than meets the eye!

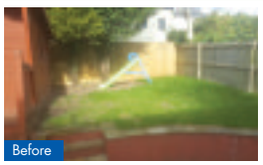
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Lawn Nation Concepts – showroom is open seven days a week

ARE you sick of having to maintain your lawn all summer long? Are you tired of muddy footprints, pawprints and mess?

A Lawn Nation Concepts spokesman explains: "Artificial lawns look fantastic. Their ease of installation and aesthetic appeal mean they really are the perfect choice when looking for a low maintenance solution to a conventional lawn.

"Our staff at Lawn Nation Concepts will be glad to address any query you might have about what we have to offer as experienced imitation grass suppliers.

"At Lawn Nation Concepts Ltd, we offer four products in varying thicknesses that you can choose from, all of which are made to the highest quality, and are available for a range of budgets.

"Our products start at a 35mm thick woven material and increase in depth from here.

"No more weekends pushing a lawn mower around – no more spending your free time fighting a losing battle with your garden.

"Artificial lawns are the low maintenance solution to a lawn that always looks fantastic and feels great.

"The advantages are numerous: year-long green lawn; no maintenance, watering or mowing; safe for children; affordable; and can be laid over any surface."

The showroom is open seven days a week Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sat and Sun, 9am-1pm. Unit 10, Palmerston Workshops, Barry, CF63 2YZ; www.lawnnationconcepts.co.uk.

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Baker's Baguettes

WELL established for eight years, Baker's Baguettes, owned by Angela Baker, is open on Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 3pm, and serves a great range of breakfasts, jacket potatoes, paninis, omelettes, meals and drinks.

Angela said: "We provide a service for people who work on the estate and visitors, but members of the public are welcome too. Over time, we have had more and more passer-by."

Baker's Baguettes is situated on the left hand side on the main road into the estate.

Baker's Baguettes
OPEN TO ALL
Mon-Fri 7.30am-3pm
CELEBRATING 8 YEARS!
Sandwiches, Baguettes, Filled Rolls, Paninis, Jacket Potatoes, Pies, Pasties & Salad Pots, Hot & Cold Drinks. Daily Specials – Hot Roast Beef, Chicken Curry, Rice and Chips, etc. Full Breakfasts and Breakfast Rolls, ..plus lots
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Serviced office suites range from one to 14 people, with an all-inclusive monthly rental – including utility bills, business rates, 24/7 access, furniture, high-speed broadband, telephone lines, reception services, gym facilities plus much more.

It all starts from £165 plus vat per month, with 50 per off your first month's office rental. We take care of you while you take care of your business!

For a free quote, or to view the facilities, call 01446 739911, email James@thebusinesscentreonline.co.uk or head to the website, www.thebusinesscentreonline.co.uk.

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Hill's skills make thrills at Llandow!



by Andy Johnstone



A day never to be forgotten for this Ysgol Y Deri pupil.

ON a day when a nearby industrial fire threatened to cancel Speed of Sight's high-octane visit to Llandow Circuit, the only smoke of interest was from spinning tyres as around 20 people sped around the track.

Speed Of Sight (SOS), a registered charity, brings the track-day experience and the thrill of 'riding the ragged edge' to people with disabilities around the UK.

The charity was founded by Mike Newman, six-time Guinness World Record holder as the fastest blind man on the planet on land and water. Formerly a bank manager, Mike broke his first land speed record on a motorbike, going on to achieve four more world land speed records in a car and, more recently, achieving the water speed record.

Open to those with a disability – either from birth or because of illness, an accident or other injuries, and be it sensory loss, physical impairment or cognitive issues – the charity gives people the chance to drive dual-control track-day cars.

Ten pupils from Ysgol Y Deri (YYD), a special education school in Penarth, were among those on the starting line on a damp track under expert tuition from SOS instructors in the dual-control cars around the 1.5km circuit.

Llandow Circuit was a RAF station, operational until 1957, and opened as a racetrack in 1963 by Graham Hill, still the only winner of the Triple Crown of Motorsport – the Indianapolis 500, the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the Monaco Grand Prix. Hill was also a two-time Formula 1 world champion.

Something of Hill's skills must have influenced the plucky and lucky 10 from YYD.

Steve Morris, a sixth-form teacher at YYD, said: "It was an amazing opportunity for our pupils to be able to experience driving a real and powerful petrol vehicle. Some of our pupils may never be fortunate enough to have a driving licence, but this enabled them to experience the thrill of driving.

"They are all keen on cars and they study Mechanics one morning a week at Cardiff and Vale College, so the day really was right up their street! They are a great bunch on young adults who really deserved to enjoy such an invigorating experience."

One YYD pupil said: "It was very fast and a bit scary, but loads of fun!"

Another added: "It made me want to be a professional driver when I'm older'

Sarah Pegler, of SOS, said: "Our mantra is making the impossible possible. "We provide life enhancing driving experiences for children and adults whom, because of their disability, would normally not have the opportunity to ever drive a car let alone enjoy taking the wheel of racing a car.

"Well, now they can."

Sarah gave special thanks to all those that took part – both on and off the track – and especially Llandow Circuit, which donated the track for the day.

Sarah added that SOS is booked to return to Llandow on October 2.

"SOS is a charity," began Sarah, "and it relies on the support, sponsorship and patronage of businesses and individuals.

"This can include donations of money, goods or services and organising fundraising events, staff volunteers or by having a corporate track day.

"Anyone wishing to sponsor and support our work with local disabled children and adults can contact me by sending an email to me at sarah@speedofsight.org, and visit www.speedofsight.org."

First aid course

FOLLOWING the installation of two public access defibrillators in Dinas Powys, Dinas Powys WI is hosting first aid courses for the public.

The course, lasting two hours, will focus on cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), the use of a defibrillator and other aspects of first aid.

The first aid instruction will be given by Welsh Ambulance Service Trust personnel.

The courses will run on Monday, March 20 at 7pm at Murchfield Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, and on Tuesday, April 25 at Lee Hall, Britway Road, also at 7pm. If these courses are oversubscribed, a further course will be arranged.

Places are limited, so to book, call 2051 2100 or 07799 402049 or email jillandterrydavies@btinternet.com.

Out & About with The GEM

Local pub will host village cinema-goers

POPULAR village pub The Fox & Hounds in Llancarfan will be hosting Cinema Club suppers, so that film-goers can enjoy a tasty supper before heading to the village's community cinema.

The next screening is on Friday, March 17 and features *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* (12A), at 7.30pm. The pre-screening supper includes a two-course meal, and a choice of sweet or salty popcorn to take away – all for £12.

The Fox and Hounds kitchen will open early to allow guests to eat from 5.30pm, with a last sitting at 6.30pm – booking is essential.

Jim and Rhiannon Dobson recently took over The Fox and Hounds with the aim of making the pub the centrepiece of the village, as well as an appealing destination for visitors from further afield.

The pub will now be open every day, and will serve food every evening, with lunches served Wednesday to Sunday.

The Fox & Hounds Llancarfan: 01446 781 287; www.fandhllancarfan.co.uk

Penarth concert

ON Friday, March 24 at 7pm, Cardiff University Chamber Choir will be appearing in concert at St Augustine's, Penarth.

It will feature Baroque choral and organ music written for, or by, Emperor Leopold I and it is part of a series being promoted by Cardiff University entitled Music in Vienna 1700, 1800, 1900. The choir is directed by Dr Peter Leech and Robert Court will be playing the organ.

The concert is preceded by a 20-minute pre-concert talk at 6.30pm Admission to the concert costs £5 (includes the talk) but students and under-18s are free. Further information from Robert Court on 07954 149304, or rgcourt@ntlworld.com.

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Take a trip to Skull Island in a truly outstanding blockbuster!



by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

THE sight of King Kong, perched atop the Empire State Building, swatting bi-planes like flies is one of the indelible images of cinema.

Since that 1933 film, *Kong* has been remade twice, in 1976 with Jeff Bridges and Jessica Lange, and in 2005 as Peter Jackson achieved his long-held dream to tackle the big ape.

In an age of remakes and reboots, it's unsurprising the King has remained dormant for so long. However, he makes another appearance in *Kong: Skull Island*, a film unconnected to previous Kong films. Set in 1974, an expedition party is taken to Skull Island by the Monarch group (who you may be aware of from 2014's *Godzilla*).

In charge is Randa (John Goodman), who along with tracker James Conrad (Tom Hiddleston), photographer Mason Weaver (Brie Larson) and a group of soldiers, led by Samuel L Jackson's Packard, are there to explore the uncharted island.

However, after a dust-up with Kong, the expedition group are sent sprawling across the island and must survive not just the elements, but the multitude of other creatures living on the island, some of whom are deadlier than Kong...

'Do we really need another *King Kong* film?' was probably the question on most people's lips when this film was announced. After all, while the original film is a classic, subsequent remakes have fallen short, so what would *Skull Island* bring to the table that these other films haven't?

Well, the answer is 'quite a lot', as *Kong: Skull Island* is a fun, epic blockbuster that knows exactly how to play the rules of the genre and has a good time doing so. Under the direction of Jordan Vogt-Roberts, the film is a zippy thrill ride, the grandiose set-pieces underpinned with the subtext of the Vietnam war – which gives the story some depth rather, than just be an all-action, no-thought film.

It's hard to believe that Vogt-Roberts has made only one feature film before this (the hugely impressive, yet low-key *The Kings Of Summer*). However, much in the same way Colin Trevorrow made the leap from indie filmmaking to blockbuster filmmaking with *Jurassic World*, so Vogt-Roberts has made the step up with ease.

The film's period means that its ripe to play on the aftermath of the Vietnam war, not just in narrative terms but also in terms of visuals. With golden sunsets and army choppers to the fore, the scent of *Apocalypse Now* is never far away, the visual influence of 'Nam movies strong but never overriding.

But it's in the set-pieces that the director shows the greatest confidence of all. Unlike Gareth Edwards' *Godzilla*, which was more strait-laced, serious and eager to show off as little of the titular monster as possible, here Kong is front and centre, the star of the show – and so he should be.

From the opening, which sees a riff on the Empire State Building sequence, this Kong is a mean, lean chopper-destroying machine, and the more we see of him, the more we learn just how powerful he is.

The story may be a melting pot of the sort of films where groups of people are picked off one by one (*Jurassic Park/Jurassic World* as a touchstone), but it never feels like its playing the familiarity card. This is partly through invention (deaths being subverted in clever and sometimes gruesome ways), partly through the use of comedic relief (best evidenced by John C Reilly's airman, stranded on the island since World War Two), and partly through lensing the plot through the prism of Vietnam.

When we meet Samuel L Jackson's Packard, we meet a man numbed to the conflict of war, desperate for one last opportunity at battle, and Kong proves to be that opportunity, his actions and desire to defeat Kong going against the wishes of many of the party. Yet for this proud soldier, this is his chance to avenge the maelstrom of Vietnam, to restore balance.

It's a clever and intelligent note that plays throughout the film, and the similarity in name of Kong and the (Viet)Cong is possibly more than just happy coincidence.

In such an epic blockbuster, it's no surprise that the performances fall a little by the wayside – Tom Hiddleston's character is nothing more than an alpha male leader devoid of personality, while Brie Larson's war photographer is at least a self-sufficient female lead (even if she is the damsel in distress by the film's end).

The real joy comes from the background characters; John C Reilly is a scream as the crazy airman, Samuel L Jackson gives his character a grizzled depth, while the likes of Shea Whigham, Jason Mitchell and Thomas Mann, all provide a satisfying dynamic as members of the army team.

Kong: Skull Island is a superb take on both the genre and the character of Kong himself, and with his next appearance likely to be in the already-announced *Godzilla v King Kong* in 2020, it whets the appetite to see both this clash of the titans and more of the big old ape.

Hopefully, Jordan Vogt-Roberts will be involved in some capacity, as his direction is a major reason why this is one of the better blockbusters in recent memory.

VERDICT: A thrilling blockbuster ride, Jordan Vogt-Roberts has created a truly satisfying and epic take on the character of *Kong in Kong: Skull Island*. Visually breathtaking, it moves at a zippy pace, doesn't lack for scale or scope, and with the performances and depth of narrative, gives a little more substance to the style. *Highly recommended.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Godzilla* (2014), *Jurassic World* (2016).

Church choir seeks new musical director

ST PETER'S Church in Peterston-super-Ely is looking for an inspirational choral director, who can also play the organ.

There are just two evening rehearsals plus one Sunday morning service each month, plus the major festivals.

The choir, which is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music, has a fine reputation throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and beyond.

There are 22 singers, including nine young choristers aged nine to 14 with tremendous potential; the repertoire sung is wide and interesting, from Palestrina in the 16th century, to present-day composers.

In recent years, the choir has visited and sung in cathedrals including St David's, Brecon, Llandaff and Wells.

There is a very supportive priest and congregation; the church has a fine 'tracker action' organ and there are excellent additional rehearsal facilities in the adjacent village hall.

For a suitable candidate seeking a larger role, there may be an opportunity to direct all the music in the church, including the choir.

The salary for this role would reflect the greater involvement (RSCM rates apply).

Lindsay Gray will be delighted to answer any questions or arrange an informal chat: Contact 07823 325 844, or lindsaygray@icloud.com

Psychological thriller

THE Dinas Powys Players have chosen Night Must Fall, a psychological thriller by Emlyn Williams, for its next production at the Parish Hall.

Rehearsals of Night Must Fall, directed by Catherine Cook, are well advanced

Curtain up is at the Parish Hall, Britway Road on April 6, 7, 8, at 7.30pm. For tickets, telephone 02921406168 or 02920512868.

WHAT'S ON / News in brief

Barry ward surgery

THE Labour Vale and Town councillors for Buttrills, Castleland and Court Wards Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans, Chris Elmore, Les Sword, Karl Kuhnell and Stuart Egan will be holding their regular advice surgery on Saturday, March 18 from 10am – 11am in the small community room at Barry Library, King Square. No appointment necessary.

Hearing loss help

IF you have a hearing loss and need assistive equipment (phones, personal loops, tv loops, doorbells etc) Action On Hearing Loss will be based at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on the first Thursday in the month.

Advisors will be there from 10am to 12pm to provide information and give demonstrations on a wide range of equipment.

No appointment is needed. Call 01446 732385 or call Chris Lazo (Action on Hearing) on 02920 523129 for further information.

If you have a hearing loss and would like to be more confident using the internet, every Friday at 10.30am to 12pm Action on Hearing will be at the Senior Health Shop to help.

Learn to make the most of your smart phone, tablet etc. Learn about communication apps such as Factime, Skype, Next Generation, Facebook with help one-to-one.

Councillor's surgery

COUN Anthony Ernest (Independent) will be 'Down Your Way', to meet local residents with queries or concerns on Friday, March 17 at 5pm outside Turner House Gallery, Plymouth Road, Penarth, and at 5.20pm at the junction of Park Road and Bridgeman Road.

On Saturday, March 18 he will be outside Byrd Crescent Community Centre at 10am and outside the Post Office/Stores at Brockhill Way at 10.20pm. For those unable to make these times, contact Coun Ernest on 02920 702111.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D974.

● **£2,000:** 609597.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £12,000, was won by 462305 this week.**

● **£10:** 7 2 5 8 2 5 , 305054, 401928, 382511, 479842, 209229, 781945, 428161, 279673, 941142, 241307, 638029, 963872, 315256, 282974, 538395, 170213, 114, 302668, 1985067, 1213661, 1985142.

● **£5:** 751369, 457639, 987269, 802020, 341855, 315004, 469587, 649563, 252877, 519323, 207211, 197486, 761283, 863601, 518147, 494196, 535655, 142612, 859833, 473586, 758966, 899151, 116633, 125028, 589251, 457910, 687167, 542047, 257446, 223733, 861236, 422751, 879507, 652044, 683993, 861637, 425261, 470532, 102111, 413384, 576560, 341915, 605140, 756390, 358865, 171658, 302905, 208357, 237795, 907302, 386599, 444032, 284241, 451, 1111, 1147, 898, 439.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Vale for Africa 'Twmpath' held at Rosedew farm





Vale for Africa's youngest volunteer, Tomos Mann (left) with 'cawl-maker' dad Tim Mann, Jane Hutt AM and the Mayor of Cowbridge, Elizabeth George.



Atlantic College Students and volunteer 'flash mob' members Jackline (left) and Maria-Sophia (right) with Vale for Africa's event organiser, Sian Tesni.

ST DAVID'S Day was once again the cue for the supporters and volunteers of local charity, Vale for Africa, to put on their dancing shoes and dance the night away!

The Welsh barn dance or 'Twmpath' was held at Rosedew Farm in Llantwit Major and was accompanied by well-known local ceilidh band Thingumijigs.

The event was a great success and helped raise over £750, all of which will go directly into the charity's project work.

Ted Arbuthnot, local optician and project leader explained: "We're planning a trip later this year, the focus of which will be the provision of primary eyecare services in remote and disadvantaged, rural areas of the Tororo District of Uganda.

"We will also be training members of the local village health teams to help carry on the work after we have left. This event has helped raise the funding we need for vital equipment and medicines."

As well as the dancing, those that attended were treated to a traditional Welsh cawl, Welsh cakes, local Welsh cheese and biscuits. There was also a range of raffle prizes generously donated by Vale for Africa's key partner organisation Cardiff and Vale College.

Gareth Kiddie, Vale for Africa's chair, commented: "These events not only provide a platform for raising funds, but an opportunity to get involved. With support in the form of a small grant from Hub Cymru Africa, we've recently established our very own volunteer 'flash mob' and we were delighted to welcome all those new volunteers who helped us out at the Twmpath this year."

Events organiser Sian Tesni, said: "We're really delighted. Everyone's had a great time and we are truly grateful for the kind support of the residents of the Vale who, once again, have turned out to support us. Without their kind help our project work couldn't go ahead."

Vale for Africa works with its Ugandan-based sister organisation TOCIDA to improve healthcare, education and library services. It does this through local fundraising and direct support for projects on the ground.

If you would like further information about the Vale for Africa, or wish to volunteer in some way, please contact the chair Gareth Kiddie via email on: gareth@gka.org.uk

St David's Day so special at Senedd

I WAS invited to a special event, Voices of Wales, hosted at the Senedd in Cardiff Bay to celebrate St David's Day on March 1.

Llywydd of the National Assembly, Elin Jones AM, patriotically opened the event with an outstanding speech.

Among others who made speeches were Bethan Jenkins AM, the chair of the National Assembly's culture, Welsh language and communications committee, and John Rostron, co-founder of the Sŵn Music Festival.

The event featured performances by Beaufort Male Voice Choir, Kizzy Crawford, Aled Rheon, Danielle Lewis and more.

Beaufort Male Voice Choir sang some prominent Welsh choral classics, which you would expect from a Welsh choir, including, 'I bob un sy'n ffyddlon', 'Calon Lân' and finally 'Tydi a Roddaist.

It was a very entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable concert to watch. The performances reminded me of the extraordinary talent and musical taste that we have in this country. What a way to mark St David's Day, the National Day of Wales!

The stage was very colourful and so were the performances that featured.

I was especially impressed with the leaflets available at the event for those visiting the Senedd who have autism and/or sensory issues.

I look forward to visiting the Senedd in the near future for similar events.

Aled Thomas, Penarth

All Sandy the corgi needs is a quiet life!



SADLY, 11-year-old Welsh Corgi Sandy was handed into Dog Trust Bridgend's rehoming centre after his owner became ill. Like a typical, loyal Corgi, he loves the company of people and doesn't like being left on his own for too long.

Staff at the centre worry that he may become overlooked because of his age, Rebecca Baker, Assistant Manager at the Pe n-y-Fai centre said: "Sandy is a superb chap with a fabulous personality who just adores the company of people.

"He is looking for a quiet home with owners who can offer him frequent shorter walks to help keep him fit, as he is a little on the chunky side and is prone to weight gain.

"Sandy is an older dog, so would benefit from living in a quiet home where he'll have the time to adjust to his new environment. He could live with older children who will give him time to settle in.

"He is a lovely, handsome older boy who really deserves to be with a loving family who can give him everything he needs."

Contact the team at Dogs Trust Bridgend on 0300 303 0292. www.dogstrust.org.uk

Pippa would love a nice garden



I'M Pippa and I'm a beautiful cat that likes a fuss.

I'm looking for a quiet home to call my own; I like company, but also like my own space where I can cat nap for an hour or two.

I need a home with a nice garden as I love a pottering around the garden.

If you can offer me a home, contact Cats Protection, Bridgend Adoption Centre, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend, (CF32 9UJ); call 01656 724396.

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NEW









Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan

- Five bedroom residence with private gated in and out drive.
- Detached stable block with 5 loose boxes, 16 acres.
- Four large reception rooms, 21 FT Kitchen & breakfast room.
- Triple garage, close to Llancarfan Village.
- Cowbridge High School catchment.

EPC = E

£1,350,000

NEW









Llanmaes, Vale of Glamorgan

- 24' open plan kitchen/diner/family room.
- 20' lounge, garden room and separate sitting room.
- Four bedrooms, ensuite & family bathroom.
- Double garage, large driveway, south westerly facing garden.
- Planning permission to extend first floor.

EPC = C

£565,000

NEW







Wick, Vale of Glamorgan

- Beautifully presented home, Four double bedrooms with master ensuite.
- 24' lounge, separate dining room/study.
- Contemporary kitchen/diner with utility room.
- Driveway and garage with electric door.
- Front and rear gardens, close to village amenities.

EPC = B

£399,950

NEW







Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan

- Four bedroom semi-detached home.
- Stunning master ensuite and dressing room.
- Lounge, sitting room, Kitchen/dining room, cloakroom/WC.
- Brick paved drive and SW facing rear garden.
- Walking distance of Cowbridge town centre.

EPC = D

£375,000

NEW





Rhoose Point

- Beautifully presented executive home.
- Contemporary kitchen/diner/ family room.
- Four double beds, stunning master ensuite.
- Two receptions room, modern cloakroom/WC.
- Double garage.

EPC = C £325-£335,000

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Cowbridge

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- Generously proportioned sunny garden.
- Garage and driveway.

EPC = D £459,950

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THE MEWS, PENARTH
NEW




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- Immaculately Presented
- Rear Courtyard
- Available to Buy Furnished

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CWRT SYR DAFYDD, LLANTWIT MAJOR
NEW




- 3 Bedrooms
- Marble Flooring
- Conservatory
- Garage

£260,000

THE GRANARY, BONVILSTON
NEW PRICE




- 5 Bedrooms
- Annexe Potential
- Double Garage
- Private Parking

£599,950

CLOS FFAWYDDEN, YSTRADOWEN
NEW PRICE




- No Chain
- Cowbridge School Catchment
- Double Garage
- 5 Bedrooms

£400,000

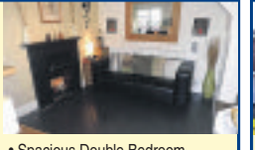
HAWTHORN AVENUE, PENARTH




- End Terrace Property
- 3 Bedrooms
- Dual Aspect Lounge
- Downstairs Shower Room

£229,950

GEORGE STREET, LLANTRISANT

- Charming Cottage
- Open Plan Sitting Room/Kitchen
- Spacious Double Bedroom
- Great Investment Opportunity

£89,500

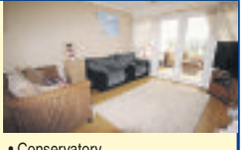
SMEATON CLOSE, RHOOSE




- Peaceful village of Rhoose
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Good Size Gardens

£170,000

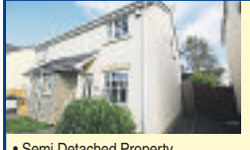
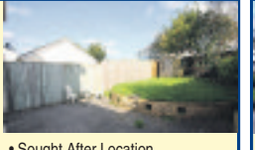
WINDSOR CLOSE, LLANTWIT MAJOR

- Semi Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Attractive Garden

£159,950

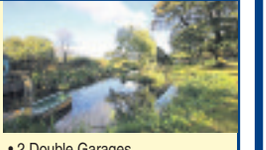
BADGERS BROOK CLOSE, YSTRADOWEN

- Semi Detached Property
- 3 Bedrooms
- Sought After Location
- No Chain

£230,000

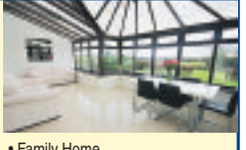
BEDFORD HOUSE, CEFN CRIBWR

- Set in c. 3.5 acres
- 5 Bedrooms
- 2 Double Garages
- Stunning Views

£725,000

THE OLD FORGE, BONVILSTON

- 4 Large Bedrooms
- 4 Reception Rooms
- Family Home
- Ample Private Parking

£650,000

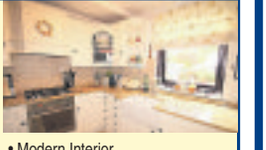
TYN-Y-BETTWS FARM, BETTWS




- 7.5 acres
- Outbuildings with potential to convert
- Character Farmhouse
- Private Setting

£595,000

HIGH STREET, LALESTON

- Private Parking
- 3 Bedrooms
- Modern Interior
- Charm and Character

£240,000

WALDEN, HIGHLIGHT LANE
SSTC




- Impressive Detached Property
- 5 Bedrooms
- Large Rear Garden
- Double Entry Driveway

£475,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND
SSTC




- Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property
- 3 Bedrooms
- Extended and Improved
- Well Regarded Location

£215,000

ST QUENTINS CLOSE, LLANBLETHIAN
SSTC




- Detached Family Home
- 4 Bedrooms
- Cul De Sac Position
- Sought After Location

£440,000

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RICS

Welsh winners of English Speaking Union's contest head for Gielgud Theatre



Some of the winners and highly commended pupils with Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards – Benjamin Morden, Jodie Norman and Manon Formaggio from King Henry VIII, Abergavenny, Wyatt Butcher from Brynteg Comprehensive, Bridgend, and Ashton Williams from Ysgol Bryn Tawe, Swansea.

THE Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama was the venue, in February, for the fourth Wales final of the English Speaking Union's 'Performing Shakespeare' competition.

The competition is aimed at students aged 11-14 and entry is via video presentations, which are viewed and judged before drawing up a shortlist of those to progress to the Wales final.

Twelve students from the 25 submissions were selected to perform 'live' to an audience of teachers, parents and ESU members, who were treated to an afternoon of unforgettable entertainment.

The three judges had the unenviable task of selecting two winning performances to go forward to the UK final, which will be held in the Gielgud Theatre in London on March 21.

Maggie Fletcher and Katherine Kettle, both experienced former teachers of drama, and Hannah Barker (a final year student at the Royal College awarded this year's bursary from the south Wales branch of the ESU for the most promising student) congratulated the two winners, Manon Formaggio from King Henry VIII School, Abergavenny; and Ashton Williams from Ysgol Bryntawe, Swansea.

Benjamin Morden and Jodie Norman from King Henry VIII and Wyatt Butcher from Brynteg Comprehensive School were highly commended for their performances. Wyatt gave a moving performance of King Lear.

Brynteg students have achieved success in previous years in the UK final with the encouragement of their teacher, Paula Beesley who, along with other teachers, is to be applauded for her enthusiastic support for this competition from its inception.

Derek Morgan, chairman of the south Wales branch of the English Speaking Union, thanked Ena Davies for coordinating the competition on behalf of the branch.

MP

Ed sets up a treasure hunt for Amelia Trust!



ED FELIX, a year-10 pupil at Cardiff High School, recently set up a treasure hunt to raise funds for the Amelia Trust Farm.

Ed, who volunteers in the farm café, was inspired by the work of the farm to set up the fundraiser as part of his Welsh Baccalaureate Community Challenge. He started volunteering at the farm in February, and decided it would be a perfect place to hold a treasure hunt.

Ed then wrote to some local businesses and organisations requesting prize donations. He developed a series of clever clues that led participants to hunt for letters that, when re-arranged, spelt out a word. Participants then entered their completed sheets into a prize draw.

All participants paid an entry fee for the treasure hunt and all the proceeds raised have been given to the farm to help us continue the important work we do supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged young people.

Ed is keen that other people take the initiative and do some fundraising for the Amelia Trust Farm and he hopes that his story will inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

If you have been inspired by Ed's story, and would like to fundraise for Amelia Trust Farm, email general@ameliatrust.org .uk or telephone 01446 782030.

JO WHITFIELD

Regional AM helps keep focus on World Kidney Day



Andrew RT Davies with Joanne Popham of the Paul Popham Fund.

Joanne Popham from the Paul Popham Fund, was recently joined by regional AM and Leader of the Welsh Conservatives Andrew RT Davies to promote World Kidney Day – and focus on the importance of reducing the risk of kidney disease.

It currently affects over 3 million people in the UK – but up to a million of these are undiagnosed. Urging Vale residents to do all they can to reduce the risk, Mr Davies said it was important to regularly monitor blood pressure and have kidney function tested.

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LLANTWIT MAJOR
£195,000
Fitzhamon Ave. CF61 1TN
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS, SOUTH FACING GARDEN, GAS CENTRAL HEATING
VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, EPC - E

LLANTWIT MAJOR
£249,995
Colhugh Park CF61 1RU
TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
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LLANTWIT MAJOR
£275,000
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FREEHOLD, NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN, TWO GROUND FLOOR BEDROOMS, TWO 1ST FLOOR BEDROOMS.
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LLANTWIT MAJOR
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FOUR BEDROOMS PRIVATE GARDENS
GARAGE

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To book your FREE no obligation Market Appraisal please Call Lisa on 02920 098438

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RedKEY Property Services are pleased to announce the launch of our Specialist Lettings & Management Services to the Vale of Glamorgan. To celebrate this launch we are offering:

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Vale of Glamorgan Council
Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road
Barry CF63 4RU

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 22 MARCH 2017

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

ALEXANDRA CRESCENT, BARRY



H4U Reference 250710

- Three-bedroom house

Rent £107.03 per week

ARTHUR DAVIS COURT, BARRY



H4U Reference 970231

- Ground floor studio apartment
- Step-in shower
- Onsite Independent Living Officer

Rent £114.11 per week including service charge

BELLE VUE CLOSE, PENARTH



H4U Reference 242971

55+

- One-bedroom ground floor flat
- Level access shower
- Community alarm
- Water meter

Rent £89.57 per week including alarm charges

CWM PARC, BARRY



H4U Reference 206458

60+

- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower
- Community alarm

Rent £113.93 per week including alarm and water charges

DALE COURT, BARRY (2)



H4U Reference 206771

- Three-bedroom houses (x2)

Rent £108.59 per week including water charges

EARL CRESCENT, BARRY



H4U Reference 208573

55+

- One-bedroom first floot flat
- Water meter
- Community alarm

Rent £78.06 per week including community alarm

OWAIN CLOSE, PENARTH

Image unavailable

H4U Reference 1006526

- Two-bedroom house
- Stairlift
- Wet room

Rent £103.13 per week

PETERSWELL ROAD, BARRY



H4U Reference 220636

55+

- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower

Rent £106.42 per week including alarm and water charges

PROCTOR CLOSE, BARRY



H4U Reference 221939

60+

- One-bedroom bungalow
- Level access shower
- Warden and alarm

Rent £121.28 per week including alarm and water charges

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH



H4U Reference 244864

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Water meter

Rent £83.60 per week

THE OLD STATION, ST ATHAN



H4U Reference 143101

Priority will be given to applicants with mobility issues who require the level of adaptations this property offers. A Local lettings policy applies.

- Two-bedroom bungalow
- Wheelchair accessible
- Widened doorways
- Level access shower
- Hoists in bedroom
- Enclosed garden and parking

Rent £107.79 per week including service charge

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CROMPTON WAY, OGMORE BY SEA

United Welsh Housing Association, in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announce the new development at Crompton Way, Ogmore by Sea.

Access to the site is on a steep hill with steps accessing the property. A local lettings policy applies and the properties will be ready to let April 2017.

- Three, two-bedroom houses

Rent £106.31 including a service charge of £2.21

ST JAMES' GARDEN, ST BRIDES, WICK

United Welsh Housing Association in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announce the new development at St Brides, Wick.

A local lettings policy applies and properties will be ready to let March/April 2017.

- Two, three-bedroom houses

Rent £109.19 including a service charge of £5.09

- Two, two-bedroom houses

Rent £110.88 including a service charge of £5.09



Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available immediately
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

Hafod newydd



Flanders Meadow, Llantwit Major
4 Double Bedrooms.
Conservatory.
Sought After Location.
£385,000 D67



Cwrt Syr Dafydd, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms.
Garage. Driveway.
Conservatory.
£260,000



David Street, Wick
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Tithe Barn Complex.
Large Parking Area.
Guide Price £450,000 E41



Pinewood Square, St Athan
3 Bedrooms.
Driveway.
GCH Combi.
£109,995 C72



103 Boverton Road
4 Bedrooms.
2 Receptions.
Detached Garage.
£499,950 E55



Tyle House Close, Llanmaes
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Driveway. Garage.
Sought After Village.
£349,950 C69



Heol Merioneth, Llantwit Major
5 Beds. Extended.
Superb Garden.
3 Garages. Annex.
£349,950 D62



Highmeadow, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms.
Driveway. Garage.
Sought After Location.
£199,950



Great House Meadow, Llantwit Major
5 Beds. En-Suite.Double Garage
No Forward Chain.
£449,950 D67



Hillhead, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms.
Garage. Driveway.
West End Location.
£325,000 D66



Milton Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms.
Conservatory.
No Forward Chain.
£269,950 D65



River Walk, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms.
West End Location.
No Forward Chain.
£250,000 D68



Mill Lay Lane, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Double Garage.
Superb Mature Location.
£479,950



Shackleton Close, St Athan
3 Beds. Conservatory.
Kitchen/Breakfast.
Beautifully Presented.
£99,950 E42



Broughton Road, Wick
3 Bedrooms.
Village Location.
Rural Views.
£249,500 D59



Clos Y Wiwer, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. En-Suite.
Superb Kitchen/Diner.
Sought After Location.
£269,950 D61



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Family Notices

COLLARD
Elizabeth Geraldine

on 21st February 2017, aged 64

Fond memories from family and friends. Committal at Barry Crematorium, Monday, 27th March at 3pm.

Donations to MDA Research.

LEGG
Edwin Andrew

Peacefully on 9 March at Springbank Nursing Home, Barry, Edwin Andrew, aged 92 years.

Previously of Orchard House and Dunraven Street, Barry. Beloved husband of the late Sylvia May, dearly loved father of Stephen, John, Linda and father in law of Leza. Cherished grandfather of Yousef, Ranya, Geraldine, Elliot, Marlon and great grandfather of Tiana and Sofi.

Edwin will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry where flowers may be sent until the funeral on Thursday, March 23.

Service in the chapel at 11am, afterwards cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium Port Road East, Barry.

COYLE
Miller James

Tragically on 5th March 2017 at the University Hospital of Wales, in the arms of his loving parents, Miller, aged 15, adored son of Derrick and Sarah, big brother of Mikey and Mac, devoted grandson of Jan and Keith Richards.

Losing Miller will leave a huge hole in the lives of his family and many friends

The funeral service will be held at All Saint's Church, Penarth on Tuesday, 21st March 2017 at 1.45pm, thereafter to Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral director James Summers & Son, Lavernock Road, Penarth, CF64 5UP, or donations to Penarth Lifeboat Appeal or Noah's Ark.

RAMSAY
John Charles

Passed away suddenly on 1st March in Winchester, Hampshire. Formerly of Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Sadly missed by his fiancee and family.

Currently resting at Park Funeral Directors until his service on 21st March, 11am at St Athan Church, St Athan.

WHITELEGG
William

Peacefully on March 3, 2017, Bill aged 84 years, beloved husband of the late Eileen, much loved father of Paul and Helen, cherished Gramps and Bobo to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bill will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major, until the funeral service at St Illtyds Church on Friday, March 24 at 1.30pm, followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for the RNLI c/o the funeral director.

EVANS
Irene (Rene)

Peacefully on 12th March 2017 with her daughters by her side. Much loved mum of Lorraine, Maria, Lynfa Gillian and son-in-laws. Sadly missed by her grandchildren, great grandchildren and her brothers and sister.

Currently resting at Park Independent Funeral Home until the service on Thursday, 23rd March, 12pm at St Helen's, followed by committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Memorial Park at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers, if desired, to be given to Age Concern.

SMITH
John

Peacefully at UHW Cardiff on March 9, John of St Athan - having won a number of battles, this one got the better of him. He will be greatly missed by his wife Sue, his siblings Josie, Jane, Peter, Albert, Joan, Janet and Tony, his extended family and all his friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. A Celebration of his life will be at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Wednesday, March 22 at 3pm.

Family flowers only please, and donations to Cancer Research Wales c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

SEWELL
Noreen Bernadette
(Née Maidment)

Peacefully on March 10th at Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth surrounded by her loving family - Noreen, well known for her love of Barry Town FC and regularly seen walking her dog Sid and recently Freddie. Much loved mum of Donna, Natalie and Scott. Cherished mum-in-law to Darran. An adored nan of Kieran and Kelsey, loving sister of Liam, John and their wives Diane and Karen.

Noreen will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Monday, March 27th at 11am. Family floral tributes only - donations if desired may be made at the service (where Marie Curie Daffodil badges will be available) or via Noreen's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you are also welcome to leave your personal messages.

All donations received to support the work of Marie Curie Hospice in memory of Noreen.

HARVEY
Gerrard Steven

Peacefully at home on 12th March 2017 surrounded by his family, Gerrard, aged 64 years. Beloved husband of Lyndsey, much loved dad of Miles and Digger (Adam).

Gerrard will be deeply missed by all his family and friends. The family would also like to add that the strength, unconditional love and support that he gave to them at all times, even throughout his final days, will be treasured forever.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at All Saints Church on Friday, 24th March at 2pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home or donations in lieu, if so desired, would be gratefully appreciated for Velindre Hospital c/o the funeral director.

HARVEY
Gerrard Steven

Dearly beloved son to Sheila and the late Fred, brother to Lynette and Anthony and uncle to Amy and Georgia.

Your courage and strength are is an inspiration to your family and all those that love you, sleep peacefully, forever in our hearts, good night and god bless from us all.

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Acknowledgements

JONES
Anthony (Tony)

The family of the late Tony would like to thank everyone for their kindness, sympathy and support for him over the last three months in which he fought with great courage, humour and dignity.

We thank all the doctors and nursing staff at CITU for their professionalism in caring for him. Special thanks to Mr. Rahman for the tireless efforts and encouragement he gave us all.

Heartfelt thanks to Canon Pat O'Gorman for his service and help. Special thanks to all who travelled long distances to show their affection and respect to Tony. To Bryan Mote for driving us at all times of day or night, and to all who visited us at this very sad time and sent sympathy cards. Also to those who generously donated to Cardiac Unit U.H.W. Heath Park, c/o Mrs.L.Barrett. Thanks to Robert at A G Adams Funeralcare, and also Hilary West for the beautiful floral tributes.

Family Notices

BRAUND
William (Bill)

Peacefully on 12 March at College Fields Nursing Home, Barry. William (Bill), aged 92 years, of Barry, known for walking with his two Westey dogs Morgan and Toby. Dearly loved husband of Joyce. Loving father of Susan and father-in-law of the late John. Devoted grandfather of Richard, Kate and her partner Andrew. Dear brother of Marion and the late Bert.

Bill will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Wednesday, 22 March. Funeral service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, where family and friends please meet at 2pm.

Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Alzheimers and Dogs Trust.

TUTTON
Barbara (Babs)

Suddenly at home on March 11th - Babs, cherished mum of Richard and Joanne. Loving mother-in-law to Samantha and Ben. An adored nan to Jake and Daniel, loving sister to Loris.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Babs is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until her service at Cadoxton Methodist Church, Barry on Tuesday, 28th March at 10.45am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

All are welcome to leave their personal messages and memories via Bab's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk

Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

SUMNER
Elizabeth

Passed away peacefully on 8th March at Y Bwythyn Newydd. Elizabeth of Severn Road, Porthcawl. Beloved wife of Neil, dearly loved mother of Katie and Dafydd, stepmother of Alice, sister to John, aunt to Adam and James, great aunt to Harri, Summer, Miles, Isabelle and Max.

Sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at David Wilde Chapel of Rest Mawdlam until the funeral on Monday, 20th March. Service at All Saints Church Porthcawl at 10.30am, followed by interment at Porthcawl Cemetery.

Donations in lieu, if desired, to Cancer Research UK C/O Brian Thomas Funeral Director, 01656 740070.

BARTLETT
Lilian Jean (Jean)

Peacefully after a short time at Llandough Hospital, Jean sadly passed away. Well known for her time working at Dan Evans coffee shop, Barry. Devoted wife of the late Leslie, much loved mum of David and Susan, cherished nanna and great nanna to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jean will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until a celebration of her life at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, 24th March at 2pm. Floral tributes are welcome to be sent via the funeral home. Further enquiries contact Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

Birthday Memories

HOPKINS
Audrey Patricia

17th March, 2016

A year has passed since we said goodbye, but not a moment have we forgotten your beautiful smile. We love and miss you today and always, our mum and nan.

Dawn, Rob, Caz, Gem and Chloe xxx

Public Notices

PROFESSOR THOMAS HERDMAN MCPHERSON Deceased

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 23 Berkley Drive, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 3DW, who died on 12/02/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undermentioned on or before 17/05/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Slater & Gordon Solicitors
Haywood House North, Dumfries Place, Cardiff, CF10 3GA
Ref: kzk/um1386557

Anniversaries

Golden Wedding

Garrison

To a lovely couple Mum and Dad,
Alan and Annette
Fred and Gary

Happy 50th Golden Anniversary 18th March

with all our love their son Mark, partner Tracy, grandsons Kyle and Deon and over 50 or more care children and adults would like to say Happy Anniversary xxx

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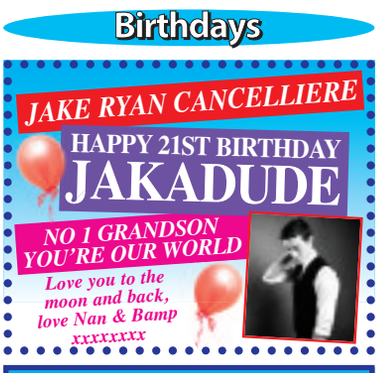
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PUBLIC NOTICE

LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern:

I **Leanne Johns** do hereby give notice that I have applied to the Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a premises licence at **Ty Teilo, Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7NT, known as Ty Teilo.**

The application is to: **sell alcohol online.**

Any persons wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to the Senior Licensing Officer, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, not later than 28 days from and including the date of this notice (as below). Representations received after this date will not be considered.

A copy of the application can be viewed at the Licensing Authority's address during normal office hours. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application.

The maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed: **L Johns**
Date: *6th March, 2017*

NOTICE OF MAKING OF AN ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 12 PENARTH) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2017

The above Order, made on 2 February 2017, under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, will divert the public footpath to the southwest of Cwrt Ty Mawr from a line running in a west south westerly direction from NGR 317003 170662 to Sully Road (NGR 316848 170600) to a line running in a westerly direction from NGR 317003 170662 to Sully Road (NGR 316816 170671) as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at The Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at the price of £4.50.

Any representations about or objections to the Order may be sent in writing to the Head of Regeneration and Planning, Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT not later than 13 April 2017. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Vale of Glamorgan Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed order. If the Order is sent to the Welsh Ministers for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Dated this 16 March 2017

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

HYSBYSIAD GWNEUD GORCHYMYN DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980
GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DARGYFEIRIO LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS (LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS PENARTH RHIF 12) 2017

Bydd y Gorchymyn uchod, wedi'i wneud ar 2 Chwefror 2017, dan Adran 119 Deddf Priffyrdd 1980, yn dargyfeirio'r llwybr cyhoeddus i dde-orllewin Cwrt Tŷ Mawr o linell sy'n rhedeg tua'r de-orllewin o NGR 317003 170662 i Sully Road (NGR 316848 170600) i linell sy'n rhedeg tua'r gorllewin o NGR 317003 170662 i Sully Road (NGR 316816 170671) fel y dangosir ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Mae copi o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn wedi eu gosod a gellir mynd i'w gweld am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gellir prynu copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn yno am £4.50.

Gellir anfon unrhyw sylwadau am neu wrthwynebiadau at y Gorchymyn yn ysgrifenedig at y Pennaeth Adfywio a Chynllunio, Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol Yr Isffordd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT nid hwyrach na 13 Ebrill 2017. Nodwch ar ba seiliau rydych yn eu gwneud.

Os na ddaw unrhyw sylwadau na gwrthwynebiadau i law, neu os cânt eu tynnu'n ôl, caiff Cyngor Bro Morgannwg gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn fel un nas gwrthwynebir. Os anfonir y Gorchymyn at Weinidogion Cymru i'w gadarnhau, caiff unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau nas tynnwyd yn ôl eu hanfon â'r Gorchymyn.

Dyddiad 16 Mawrth 2017

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 1972
ADRAN 122 (2A) TIR GERLLAW CANOLFAN HAMDDEN HOLM VIEW

Rhoddir HYSBYSIAD drwy hyn bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn bwriadu meddiannu tir priodol sydd ag ardal o tua 944 m2 gerllaw Canolfan Hamdden Holm View, Y Barri ac sydd ar hyn o bryd dan reolaeth Adran Amgylchedd a Thai y Cyngor fel ardal amwynder / man agored at ddibenion hamdden, i Adran Dai y Cyngor at ddibenion datblygu tai.

Gellir gweld cynllun yn nodi'r tir yn y Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holltwn, Y Barri yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Rhaid i wrthwynebiadau i'r meddiant gael eu gwneud yn ysgrifenedig, gan nodi sail y gwrthwynebiadau a'u cyfeirio at Bennaeth y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol (cyf C13-1018) yn y cyfeiriad a nodir isod erbyn 23 Mawrth 2017.

Gyda golwg ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad i Wybodaeth) 1985 rhoddir gwybod i bersonau sy'n gwrthwynebu'r cynnig fod y Cyngor hwn yn gorfod gwneud unrhyw sylwadau a dderbynnir mewn ymateb i'r cynnig ar gael i'r cyhoedd edrych arnynt.

Dyddiedig 9 Mawrth 2017.

D. Marles
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfeydd Dinesig,
Heol Holltwn, Y Barri,
CF63 4RU

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 122 (2A) LAND ADJACENT TO HOLM VIEW LEISURE CENTRE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council intends to appropriate land having an area of approximately 944 m2 adjacent to Holm View Leisure Centre, Barry and which is currently under the control of the Council's Environment and Housing Department as an amenity/open space area for leisure purposes, to the Council's Housing Department for housing development purposes.

A plan identifying the land may be examined at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry during normal office hours.

Objections to the intended appropriation must be made in writing, stating the grounds for such objections and addressed to Head of Legal Services (re C13-1018) at the address stated below by no later than 23rd March 2017.

Persons objecting to the proposal are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposal open to public inspection.

Dated this 9th day of March 2017

D. Marles
Head of Legal Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices
Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU

TITLE DELIGHT FOR PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB'S FIRSTS!

ONE week on from the third XI having their promotion from De Cymru 3 confirmed, Penarth Hockey Club were able to celebrate another notable achievement as the first XI secured not only promotion from Conference North, but also their second consecutive GoCrea8 League divisional title.

PENARTH 3, FIREBRANDS 'A' 2

There was plenty on the line as Penarth welcomed the famous hockey name of Firebrands to the Bears Den at Stanwell on Saturday, knowing that a single point from the top-of-the-table clash would be enough to secure a second successive promotion.

Firebrands enjoyed the majority of possession early on, moving the ball around the defence and midfield with purpose as they pushed hard for the early opener that had marked the teams' first meeting. Penarth, however, showed great discipline and shape as they navigated the early storm without any major scares.

As the half drew on, the Bears were happy for Firebrands to have the ball as it was their own pace on the counter-attack that started to swing the game in their favour.

Having already created chances for the home side, one such break down the right caused panic in the visitors' 'D', resulting in a penalty corner that Laith El-Khatib despite with pinpoint accuracy from the top of the 'D' into the bottom right corner.

With Penarth tails up, Firebrands began to struggle with the pace of the home side's attacks, and the Bears went for the kill before the half was out. Again, the high tempo down the right flank caused the damage, as Penarth worked their way into the visitors' 'D' and committed the on-rushing keeper before slipping the ball to El-Khatib to fire in his second at the back post.

Penarth were not finished there either, with one last penalty corner before the half-time whistle giving Ben Croxall the chance to step up to convert for a commanding 3-0 lead at the break.

Despite the scoreline, it was clear from the restart that the experienced Firebrands team were not about to capitulate, and they continued to play quality hockey. As the visitors again began by moving the ball around, Penarth remained disciplined and well-organised as they looked to sit on their three-goal lead.

The tactic, however, proved to be costly as Firebrands were finally rewarded with the goal their play deserved, working the ball down Penarth's left before firing it to the back post, where an attacker arrived to tip in first time.

The Firebrands grabbed a quick-fire second goal as a scramble in the 'D' saw the ball slipped under goalkeeper Adam Putt to make it 3-2 with plenty of time on the clock.

As time ticked by without the visitors finding a third goal, however, the Bears began to settle down and manage the situation as they moved away from playing on the counter and began to hold possession to see out the clock.

Gradually, the game started to turn back in the hosts' favour and, with no further goals for either side, they were able to secure a hard-fought 3-2 win and secure promotion as champions.

With two games remaining on their Conference North schedule, Penarth can now enjoy an extended victory lap before continuing their march up the GoCrea8 League tables.

Neath 2, Penarth 'A' 3

The second XI travelled to Neath knowing that anything less than a victory would more than likely see them relinquish their second place position in a closely-contested De Cymru 1 table.

Hampered in their efforts to play the expansive hockey which has served them so well this season due to the pitch, Penarth's passing moves were often broken down by an erratic bobble of the ball, but it was the away side who started better, countering quickly but proving unable to take any of the chances that came their way early on.

As the half wore on, Penarth continued to press, eventually grabbing the opening goal midway through the half. Phil Lane added to his season's impressive tally of assists by driving through midfield and finding Dave Kidby, who slipped the ball through the keeper's legs to break the deadlock.

The half ended with the Bears still 1-0 up, but knowing they had their goalkeeper to thank for the lead and that they needed to regain control of the game if they were to take the full three points.

Despite the warning, however, it was Neath who scored next, a well worked attack finding an unmarked player at the far post to finally breach Penarth's resistance and level the tie.

The equaliser, while unwanted, finally seemed to spur Penarth back into action and the lead was restored midway through the half, this time with Dave Stevens looping his penalty corner strike, somewhat fortuitously, over the prone goalkeeper.

The decisive moment in the game eventually came from Lane, who temporarily ease the Bears' nerves by smashing home a volley from the top of the 'D' after good build-up work from Andy Strong and Rich Baker.

Now two goals down, Neath responded by pushing more men forward, determined to repeat the share of the spoils they had achieved against promotion-chasing Swansea City the week before.

With three minutes to go, Neath converted a well-worked penalty corner routine to make it 3-2 and ensure a tense finish.

The home side had one final chance to equalise, but Davison again made a crucial challenge at the penalty corner to see out the danger and ensure Penarth came away with the win.

PENARTH 'B'4, GWENT 'B' 2

The thirds opened De Cymru 3 proceedings at Stanwell, hosting a Gwent side who they had lost to in the most recent reverse fixture a few weeks ago.

The Bears dominated possession and territory, but on their first significant piece of play, Gwent broke on the counter and scored through a fierce strike which gave goalkeeper Mark Harris no chance.

Following a very ragged 15 minute spell, the home side eventually restored parity, with skipper Dave Watkins levelling from a penalty corner to take the sides into the break on level terms.

It wasn't long into the second half before the home side started to win frequent penalty corners, the next of which ended with a Simon Wilkinson strike to make it 2-1.

A short corner resulted in a penalty flick, converted by Keir Vanner, and, while a rare Gwent attack brought the score back to 3-2 to set up for a nervous last 10 minutes for the hosts, nerves were soon calmed by the award of yet another penalty, again dispatched by Vanner to confirm a deserved 4-2 win for the Bears.

PENARTH 'C' 2, SWANSEA CITY 'C' 3

Despite their best endeavours, the 'C-Siders' were unable to make it four wins out of four for the club as they narrowly lost a fiercely-fought encounter with their Swansea City rivals.

The visitors hit the ground running and took an early lead from a well-worked penalty corner and, despite the wake-up call, the Penarth side seemed lethargic and lacklustre, even when creating several clear chances on the break.

Buoyed by maintaining their clean sheet, Swansea went on to extend their lead by two further goals before the interval, leaving Penarth with a second half mountain to climb.

The second period, however, was a completely different affair, with the revitalised Penarth side forcing Swansea to defend deeper and deeper, with the ever-improving Rhys Meddins creating numerous chances that the excellent young Swansea 'keeper had to be at his very best to keep out.

Despite intense pressure and numerous opportunities, the home side could only score two goals - through Richard Cousins and Marc Sawyer – before time expired, and the final 3-2 result meant that Swansea leapfrog over the Bears into fourth place in De Cymru 3.

This Saturday sees all four Penarth sides in action once again, with the first XI beginning their Conference North celebrations against another illustrious hockey name as they host promotion-chasing Robinsons at Stanwell School (1.45pm start).

The second XI are on their travels once more with a late morning meeting with a tricky Swansea University side at King George V Field, leaving the thirds and fourths to stage the curtain-raiser at Stanwell as they play out their final derby encounter of the season (12 noon start).

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability.

When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL



Jordan Cotterill's free-kick was the difference as Barry Town United beat Cambrian and Clydach Vale 1-0 on Saturday. All pictures by SAME OLD SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

Twin wins put Barry into pole position for promotion push

BARRY TOWN UNITED took a priceless six points from their two home fixtures this week, as the club's quest for the Welsh League Division One championship continued at Jenner Park.



Saturday's game was a hard-fought and close affair.

On Saturday, an open and competitive match with Cambrian and Clydach Vale remained goalless until forward Jordan Cotterill dispatched a fine free-kick, helping the Town to a precious 1-0 win.

Then, a Tuesday night crowd of 362 saw Barry defeat title challengers Haverfordwest County 2-0, with Louis Gerrard finishing off an intrepid individual run for their first, before showing sublime skill to set up TJ Nagi; the club's leading goalscorer heading home the decisive second.

Haverfordwest travelled to Jenner Park unbeaten in the league since October, but after losing out in a unique pre-match stand-off, the Bluebirds were unable to crack the Barry defence, with goalkeeper Mike Lewis helping himself to a third consecutive clean sheet.

The pair of victories helped the Town move four points clear at the top of the division and served as a fitting tribute to beloved Barry supporter Noreen Sewell, who sadly passed away on Friday evening following a brave battle with cancer.

A familiar face at Jenner Park and games across the region, Barry Town paid its respects with a minute's silence before the Cambrian match, with a spokesperson commenting that Noreen was "a wonderful lady", reflecting the high esteem she was held in at the club.

This Saturday, Barry travel to Taffs Well in a 2.30pm kick-off, while third-placed Haverfordwest host bottom of the table Risca United and second-placed Goytre make the short trip to Monmouth Town.

With each of the top four sides having completed 22 fixtures, Barry's haul of 47 league points sees them stand four points clear of Goytre and six of Haverfordwest, with eight games left to play.

AC

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

THE latest results for Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing February 27 are as follows:

First division: SV Gals (J Richards 30) 290, Bobby's Girls (S Snelson 30) 286; Pila Palas (M Barnett 35) 320, Family Affair (J Walden) 334; Family and Friends (T Norris 28)237, Space Finders (J Snooks 25) 235; Baker's Dozen (E Baker, J Morgan, M Elis 26) 276, Red Admiral (R Smith 28) 271; Barry Stars (C Lambeth 37) 358, Cigar Ladies (H Bigham 31) 324; Coppers (J Williams 32) 302, Allsorts (H James 31) 302; Special Angels (T Jones 26) 250, Colcot Ladies (B Heathfield 27) 244.

Second division: Castle Bandits (J McAndrew 29) 233, Castaways (G Drew 27) 258; Roller Coasters (P Thomas 21) 195, Fallen Angels (C Stephens, C Phillips 27) 228; Cad Con Fillies (G Clements 26) 236, Clickies (M Williams 22) 191; After Eights (D Goddard 34) 245, Breakaways (V Martin 30) 296; Witchill Widows (A Doel-Davies 33) 311, SV Lights (D Masterman, B Kenefick 32) 283; Rhoose Starlights (S Turner, K Bryan 26) 262, Merry Makers (R Collins 26) 219; Witchill Weebies (M Smith 29) 272, Airways Angels (Sales, J Naish 31) 335.

Third division: Little Devils (J Jones 28) 248, Dolly Mixtures (P Brigham 26) 218; Vixens (TCurnick, K Thomas 29) 278, Witches (W Williams 31) 283; Rebels (S Dawkins 25) 220, La Belles (E Cordy 25) 264; Rugby Triers (D Shering, S Blackmoore 25 233, Hill Billies (J Lomas 27) 229; Challengers (A Beale 39) 342, Etcetera (M Grasby 34) 303; Westenders (T Stait 24) 236, SV Ladies (G Davey 27) 197.

Fourth division: Nite Outers (L Newman, M Hudson, V McCoan 25) 215, Hell Raisers (C Hatcher 26) 211; Optimist (E Playle 26) 230, Witchill Wanderers (J Morrissey 27) 194; Off The Rails (S Doughty 30) 231, Persuaders (C Thomas 24) 238; Aristocats (C Chatwell 23) 206, Odd Bods (R Dutton 29) 174; Boozy Birds (L Harris, A Lloyd 33) 296, Guardian Angels (D Ling 35) 284; Living On A Spare (D Townsend 35) 315, Socialites (R Hooper, J Holden 32) 321.

Games cancelled at Barry RFC

UNFORTUNATELY last Saturday's games had to be cancelled at Barry RFC due to ground conditions.

This means that with this weekend seeing the climax to the Six Nations, Barry's next fixture will be on Saturday, March 25 when the visitors to the Reservoir Field will be Abercynon. Kick off is at 2.30pm

Last week's Lottery saw two people match three of the four numbers which were 02, 10, 16 and 21 - this week's jackpot will be £4,010. Good luck!

AJ

Vale of Glamorgan Football League news round-up

The ASRS and Dockers Cups took centre stage this weekend as the competitions reached the semi-final stage.

In the ASRS Cup Vale United's bid for the treble continued as they edged out St Athan 3-2 with an own goal, Dan Hanson and Alex Gregory sending the league leaders into the final.

They will play Cowbridge Town who went all the way to penalties against Rhoose, Town coming out victorious in the shoot out to go to Jenner Park on April 30.

In the Dockers Cup, Barry Saints demolished Island Marine B 6-1. David Evans bagged a hat trick including a 40 yard thunderbolt free kick, Joss Davies (2) Joey Matthews adding the others.

That set up a final that will please the neutrals, as league leaders Cadoxton Imps pipped Rhoose B 1-0.

The last outstanding Supporters cup quarter-final was also played with Pumas winning a thriller 4-3 against Cadoxton Athletic.

Only three league fixtures were played this weekend. In Division One Barry Belgrade thumped Glenbrook a massive 11-1 to go eight points behind leaders Barry Athletic B with two games in hand.

In Division Two, Penarth Town B thrashed bottom side Pumas B 6-1, Morgan Hayman (2), Simon Fairhurst (2), Nathan Bousie and McCauley Winton scored the goals that send Town B to within three points of second and seven points of top.

Finally, BVFC got their first win in five league games as they were victorious away to St Athan B 3-1.

This week's games of the day see St Athan represent the Vale in the quarter-finals of the SWFA Intermediate Cup against Nelson Cavaliers.

In the league Rhoose host Vale United in a second vs first clash, Cogan vs Pumas and another top of the table clash as Cadoxton Imps play Barry Saints.

HD

Champion Lee gives talk on career so far



Picture by Liam Hartery.

LEE SELBY, IBF Featherweight world champion, was in his stride entertaining the audience on Friday, March 10, with co-speaker Enzo Maccarinelli, former WBO Cruiserweight champion, regaling stories of their illustrious boxing careers, as Nicky Piper and former Commonwealth light heavyweight champion interviewed them both.

The audience enjoyed their boxing tales in an event that also saw the auctioning of boxing memorabilia in aid of George Thomas Hospice Care in Cardiff of which Nicky is the fundraising manager - you can support this charity through the website https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Nicky-Piper.

Bidding went well as the audience snapped up items such as a signed Mike Tyson photo and Frank Bruno glove, as well as a Jack Dempsey boxing glove and photo to name but a few!

Lee will be supporting a key charity, A Fighting Chance for Dean Francis, a UK champion boxer and family man who has been diagnosed with cancer with only a year to live. To support this cause please visit Lee's Twitter page, @leeselby126.

Lee is looking to take on Carl Frampton in his next big fight, hopefully on home soil in Cardiff, in a fight that could potentially be an incredible show between two of Britain's brightest boxing talents.

CHRISTINA HARTERY

Glamorgan look to new season for success...

WITH the combined talents of Colin Ingram and Chris Cooke again available Glamorgan should certainly improve on last season's poor championship performances and make an impact in one day cricket.

Ingram missed the entire championship season due to injury, while Cooke was also absent from mid-June onwards, though Ingram compensated with his outstanding form in one day competitions and was voted the T20 Blast player of the year.

The absence of Ingram and Cooke, allied to Jacques Rudolph's indifferent form throughout the summer, contributed to a meagre total of 34 batting points, while Glamorgan lost games by their inability to post substantial first innings total, and to chase moderate targets in the final innings.

There should be no shortage of runs this year, especially if Glamorgan's younger brigade can emulate the feats of last season, when they were given their opportunities due to the absence of two senior batsmen.

Aneurin Donald (19), struck a remarkable 234 at Colwyn Bay, Kiran Carlson, a year younger, and Owen Morgan, scored maiden championship centuries while Lukas Carey, another Welsh born player took seven wickets on his championship debut. David Lloyd, from north Wales, scored the first two centuries of his career and excelled as an opener in one day cricket, and with Nick Sellman, also with two 100s as an opener and Will Bragg, a dependable No.3, there will be plenty of competition for batting place.

With such an array of young talent, no one would disagree with coach Robert Croft's assessment of last season as "disappointing but encouraging".

Glamorgan are poised to sign the South African seamer Marchant De Lange to complement the potent new ball attack of Michael Hogan and Timm Van Der Gugten, who, between them, bowled more than 950 overs in the championship last season.

Van Der Gugten was voted the club's player of the year after taking 56 first class wickets and a further 19 in the T20 Blast, and is hopeful of being fit for the first championship game against Northamptonshire.

De Lange, who has played two games for South Africa and featured in the IPL, will strengthen the pace attack which should prosper through the combined talents of three experienced seamers, supplemented by Graham Wagg and Craig Meschede.

The club will host four Champions Trophy games, including a semi-final this summer, as well as a T20 encounter between England and South Africa.

The ground celebrates its 50th anniversary, while 20 years ago Matthew Maynard led the club to their third championship title.

Further success would be welcomed, especially by chief executive Hugh Morris, who captained the club and played in the 1977 team.

EDWARD BEVAN

On and Off The Turf with ***Brian Lee***

COWBRIDGE'S Jeffrey Bird was delighted to see his nine-year-old bay gelding Repeat Business run out a convincing four lengths winner of the Men's Open race at the Curre & Llangibby Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases last Sunday.

Always in a handy position throughout, Repeat Business who is trained by Mr Bird's brother-in-law former leading rider Jonathan Tudor at Merthyr Mawr, was ridden by Richard Patrick who said: "Repeat Business has improved a lot since winning over the course last month and he did it very nicely." Mr Bird said: "I was very pleased with the way he ran and I will have to sit down with Jonathan to decide where we go next."

Repeat Business beat Sir Du Bearn who was ridden by James Bowen who had celebrated his 16th birthday earlier in the day by winning the opening members' race - his very first ride in a point-to-point - on Indian Leader trained by his brother Michael Bowen.

He later made it a day to really remember when winning the first division of the open maiden race on his brother's Deadly Move which won by three lengths from the pacemaking Blue Tinker partnered by Byron Moorcroft.

Six went to post for the Ladies' Open race and Ally Stirling on Mr and Mrs William Rucker's 12-year-old Get It On drew away in the closing stages to beat the favourite recent course winner Hold Court ridden by Isabel Williams by three lengths with Tony Star ridden by Jodie Hughes a further 10 lengths in arrears.

Ally Sterling who was riding her first winner at Howick said: "It is a great pleasure to ride a winner in these famous colours." Ironically, Get It On used to be trained by Isabel Williams's father Evan Williams.

The Eight-Year-Old And Over PPORA Club Members Conditions Race went to the 10-year-old French-bred Qalinas who under Wayne Maskill led three fences from home to score by eight lengths from the blinkered Grove Field.

Owned by National Hunt trainer Dai Rees and Emma Noremac who was celebrating her birthday, Qalinas was bought for 32-year-old Wayne Maskill who rides out for Mr Rees.

Ten of the 20 entries lined up for the Restricted race and Kevin Salter's Spencer Moon drew clear at the last to win by six lengths from recent course winner Manhattan Mead.

Spencer Moon, who is by Dr Massini and who is trained by Keiran Price, was the first leg of a double for the Vale's Byron Moorcroft, who also won the second division of the open maiden race on Tom Faulkner's Kensington Castle who survived two bad mistakes yet still won by three lengths from the North Ledbury horse Kings Watch.

Former rider Tom Faulkner, who admitted to having a nice bet on his promising six-year-old, was full of praise for former Welsh champion rider Nick Williams who has been training the horse for him on Ogmore sands.

He said Kensington Castle, whose only other racecourse experience was in a bumper, will probably now run under rules.

Both divisions of the maiden were ran in exactly the same time - seven minutes and five seconds.

FIVE OUT OF FIVE FOR EDWARD

Edward Vaughan, aged nine, and son of Aberthin's Tim and Abbi Vaughan, made it five wins out of five when winning the 138cms and under open pony race at the Curre & Llangibby Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases last Sunday.

Riding his nine-year-old bay mare Humbel Mind, Edward showed the style his National Hunt trainer dad had when he finished ahead of Daniel Ellis, aged 12, who was riding Clear The Track. Elena Nikou, aged 13, riding her 12 year-old Dutchess finished third.

The 148cms and under pony race was won by Liam Harrison, aged 14, on Pacman who in a close finish beat Peateoah partnered by Bridgend's Connor Brace.

Hot Night, ridden by Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor, finished third.

COLORADO DOC

David Brace's Colorado Doc, ridden by Bradley Gibbs, landed the Intermediate race at the East Devon Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases last Saturday.

Colorado Doc, who is by the leading sire Dr Massini, had just two races last season and after winning first time out was a faller in the other race when going well.

Elysee shines for Welsh netball team (and is named player of the tournament)

ELYSEE HAYWARD of CTK netball club, and a Welsh under-17 netball international, was part of an outstanding squad performance to secure the silver medal place at the recent Netball Europe competition.

Held in Belfast last weekend, with an initial nail biting game against Scotland ending in a well earned draw 59-59, Wales next faced a sharp England squad who won 67-37.

However Wales regrouped and held their nerve against Northern Ireland, winning convincingly 46-37. Due to their superior goal difference compared to Scotland, Wales returned home silver medal holders.

In addition, Elysee's individual brilliance was recognized when she was named player of the tournament.

It was a fantastic achievement and everyone at CTK, her home club, are extremely proud of not only her success, but also her hard work and dedication.

Elysee has played for CTK for eight years, at all age groups, and stepped into the adult world of netball aged only 13.

She is a regular member of CTK first team and plays for Cardiff High School and Cardiff and Vale County.

In 2014 Elysee was selected for Wales under-15s squad and has been in the under-17s squad for three seasons.

She is experienced beyond her years and has a bright future ahead of her, and we look forward to watching her progress through the Welsh performance pathway. Well done Elysee!

CW

Cowbridge RFC take the win in a real humdinger!

DESPITE their lowly league position, several of Old Penarthians matches this season have been close run affairs and last Saturday's encounter at the Athletic Field against Cowbridge RFC was no exception.

On a calm grey afternoon Cowbridge had a perfect start with an Alex Guard cross kick superbly chased by Tom James causing panic in the visitors defence as Guard collected the loose ball to sprint over for a try with just two minutes on the clock. Ben Wright converted.

Old Penarthians fought back into the Cowbridge 22 but a fine break by full back James saw Cowbridge within 20 metres of the try line.

Another loose ball was kicked through by prop Sam Richards for No.8 Dan Holder to collect and touch down for a second Cowbridge try.

Just as it seemed that Cowbridge were already running away with the game Old Pens recycled the ball several times in the Cowbridge half, finally spinning the ball out to their speedy left wing to sprint over.

This was soon followed by a penalty to bring the scores to 12-8.

However this proved to be a brief respite for the visitors as the Cowbridge pack started to make wear down the opposing pack with some fine bursts by hooker Craig Boxall.

With five minutes to half-time a great drive by Boxall from a lineout set up the ball for scrum-half Hywel Williams to bamboozle the defence with a dummy to cross for a third Cowbridge try.

It was now all Cowbridge and just on half time a flowing backs move culminated in an incisive break by centre Pat George, who sliced through for Cowbridge's fourth try and a bonus point.

The half-time score was: Cowbridge 22, Old Penarthians 8.

The Cowbridge faithful were now looking for a tryfest in the second half, and within five minutes another flowing backs move resulted in Tom James sprinting over for a fifth Cowbridge try; with Ben Wright providing the extras.

Somehow the floodgates didn't quite open for Cowbridge, and Old Pens were soon back on the scoreboard with a converted breakaway try, followed quickly by another converted try to bring the score to 29-22.

Cowbridge were now on the back foot and were punished with a bizarre yellow card.

However, with some resolute Cowbridge defence they managed to weather the storm and a penalty soon took Cowbridge up to the 22.

This was followed by the Old Pens picking up a yellow card and the ever-reliable boot of Ben Wright converting the penalty, followed by a second one a few minutes later.

Still Old Pens were not finished and with seconds to go scored their fourth try which their impressive full back converted.

The final score WAS; Cowbridge 35, Old Penarthians 29.

Although Cowbridge never looked like losing, all credit to Old Pens for battling to the end.

Maybe a little complacency set in after the outstanding first half, with some great rugby, but it was still another important bonus point victory.

Cowbridge are now in fifth place with 41 points and with seven games still to play will be looking to move up the table over the next few weeks.

This Saturday, there is a possibility we might be home against Wattstown (early kick-off), in a game rearranged from a few weeks ago - contact the club on Thursday for confirmation.

There is plenty of rugby on show at the club with Scotland v Italy at 12.30pm, France v Wales at 2.45pm and Ireland v England at 5pm as the Six Nations draws to a close.

The following Saturday, we travel to Tonyrefail and on April 1, we are at home to Caerau Ely.

RV/RK

BOOST FOR THE BARRY BEAVERS

RECENTLY, Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club received cash from Asda and the Community Chest, which was presented to the club recently.

It will help the club purchase new chairs for the chair hoist to help disabled swimmers in and out of the water during club sessions – and also for use at galas.

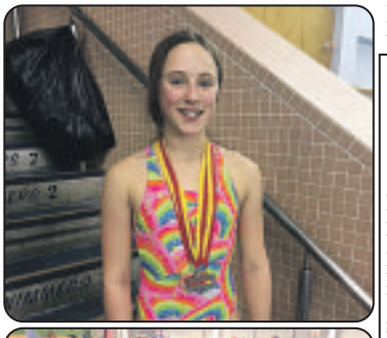
"The club would like to thank both Asda and Community Chest for their cheques as it is much appreciated and it'll help us greatly in the long run," a spokesperson said.

Nippers impress in Swansea!













THE Rhoose Lifeguard Nippers were up bright and early and headed for Wales National Pool Swansea for the Welsh Stillwaters last month.

Our team consisted of 54 nippers who all worked extremely hard in their individual races and as members of their teams.

Throughout the day there were some personal bests achieved, Welsh records broken and set, quite a few medals and many smiling faces.

Our fabulous medal winners on the day were: Ava Wong – 3rd Flipper race, 2nd Board race; Connie Millar – 1st Flipper race, 1st Manikin carry, 2nd Board race; Xantia Hobrough – 2nd Flipper race, 2nd Manikin carry; Evie Wong – 1st Flipper race, 2nd Board race; Elian Davies – 3rd Board race; Lena Davies – 3rd Board race; Ellie Bryan – 3rd Board race.

In the team events we also achieved gold in the girls 10 year Rescue Tube and Board Rescue, bronze in girls Medley Relay, 13 year Girls Board Rescue and 13 year Girls Board Relay.

During the day a few members achieved Welsh records, which is an amazing achievement.

Those that achieved these records are: Connie Millar - Flippers and Manikin; Xantia Hobrough - Flippers.

Welsh records were also broken by Xantia Hobrough - Manikin, Evie Wong – Board and the Girls Medley Relay team.

Those that were there will agree that one of the best events of the day was little Ryan Seldon doing his board event.

He had only ever been on a board once or twice and not competed at a major championships before.

He struggled in parts but showed great determination finished the race with a massive smile and the biggest cheer of the day and then went on to play a critical role in the boys board relay event - well done Ryan.

A very big thank you to all our amazing Nippers and of course, mums, dads and grandparents for all the support and cheering on during the day.

VW

Cowbridge under elevens continue to impress

COWBRIDGE RFC under-11s travelled to Rhiwbina hoping to keep the momentum building from the good performances throughout this season.

Cowbridge faced a strong Rhiwbina side and started strongly with some good attacking play and probing runs keeping the hosts in their own 22.

All the work failed to pay out in the early phases of the game, with the hosts gaining two tries in quick succession on the counter attack in the closing period of the first half, although Cowbridge had three tries disallowed in the same period putting them somewhat on the back foot.

As the cliché goes, this was clearly a game of two halfs, with halftime allowing the Cowbridge coaches to refine some needed tactical guidance, the visitors immediately came back strong in the second half.

The Cowbridge forwards secured the ball at the breakdown and set the platform for the backs to pick their game up with some scintillating inter-play which sent Ollie Stancombe into the corner from the left wing.

The same happened shortly after the re-start, this time Owen Francis was set free on the right wing with quick ball along the back line.

Cowbridge continued the pressure with Harry New bursting through from outside centre to take the lead.

Cowbridge sealed the victory with the powerful pack setting up George Tuckley to storm over the line from the break down.

The final try came from classic running rugby from the backs and Ollie Stancombe taking his second of the game. Final score 5-2 to Cowbridge.

Another excellent performance and turnout for Cowbridge under-11s who continue to impress.

TF

Llantwit Major bowls meeting

LLANTWIT MAJOR lady bowlers are notified that the pre-season meeting will be held in the clubhouse at 10.30am on March 24.

New members are welcome to come along to hear what it is all about, apologies to Carol Willmot, ladies secretary.

CW

BADMINTON SUCCESS FOR SCHOOL PUPILS

ON Wednesday, March 8, four girls from Cowbridge Comprehensive School year 8, Vivian Yip, Seren Burgum, Sian Cox and Freya Jolles, travelled to Sophia Gardens in Cardiff for the South Wales 5x60 badminton finals.

They played really well and just missed out on winning the tournament, competing against schools from Powys, Cardiff and Swansea. Congratulations on achieving second place.

Youthful Hebe wins hockey title for Christ College!

LLANCARFAN'S Hebe Thomas, a pupil of Christ College Brecon, was the heroine for their under-18 hockey team as she scored the winning penalty to win them the national schoolgirls' title.

Christ College faced Glan Taf in the final, having had a nail-biting route through to this stage, and with the sides locked at 0-0 the final went to penalties and Hebe, with a deft flick of the stick, sent the ball into the goal to bring the trophy home, ending a successful season for the under-18s!

PLAYERS WANTED

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC under-11s team are looking for new players and coaches.

The age group is current school year 6, and training takes place on Thursday nights, 6.30-7.45pm - for more information contact Melanie Griffiths on 07786 520274.

Llantwit Major RFC back to winning ways

RUGBY was the winner in a sometimes niggling affair at the Recreation Ground as Llantwit beat St Albans 33-0, scoring five tries in this league encounter which was also acting as their last game in qualification for the East District Cup.

The cup competition is run whereby each of the clubs in the East district of the Welsh Rugby Union are allocated eight games in their respective leagues, four at home and four away.

The results of each game then count towards points in a league table format with the top four teams in the league then going through to the semi-finals.

This commanding win over the Buns means Llantwit now have sufficient points to guarantee qualification to the semi-finals with both games due to be played simultaneously on the evening of Wednesday, April 19, at Llandaff North RFC.

Their opponents though are still to be decided as other clubs still have fixtures to complete.

With their recent run of games consisting of good performances but the wrong results, the Llantwit players were determined not to lose their opportunity of cup qualification and started at a ferocious pace; but as in recent fixtures, every time they made headway they were thwarted by spilled passes and a series of penalties awarded against them.

Slowly though they managed to get their act together and started using their loose forwards on strong runs and then released centres Rhys Davies and Jack Austin to keep pushing back the Buns' defence.

The gains in territory were eventually rewarded by a well-worked driving maul allowing prop Geraint David to smuggle the ball over for a try at the clubhouse end.

The conversion from far out near to the bowling green touchline was just narrowly missed by outside half Dan Powell.

After an unsavoury incident which saw a Llantwit Major player knocked out, Llantwit found quick retribution by quickly crossing the try line once again, this time after some good forward drives.

A thunderous run by prop Damian Gardner Ponting smashed through the Buns defence to go over close to the posts and Powell added a further two points with the conversion bringing the half to an end at 12-0.

The second half started in the same manner as the first ended with another tremendous run by Ponting as he again smashed through even more defenders, leaving several of them in his wake as he went over at the school end, the conversion again slotted over by Powell.

Llantwit were now in total control of the game, causing the Buns problems all over the pitch such was the quickness and execution of their plays.

A further try was inevitable - and a peach of a try it was. With the Buns making a rare venture into the Llantwit half, an excellent defensive ruck by No 8 Jamie Lewis and man of the match Dan Bawden led to a penalty.

Taken quickly by Josh Austin, who raced off on a jinxing run leaving the visitors defence back-pedalling, the ball was then quickly released across the three quarters and into the hands of speedster Luke Dawes, who went on an arcing run, outpacing the defence to go under the sticks, again converted by Powell.

The final try was a proper tight forwards score, as the St Albans pack were shoved over their own line, replacement Number 8 Rob Carter grounding the try, and Powell again converting, this time from far out wide, taking his own contribution to eight points and his season's tally over the hundred mark – a fine achievement.

Sadly, with only a short time left to play, the game was again stopped with tempers again flaring, and by this time the referee had had enough of the unwanted shenanigans and blew for the final whistle.

An adequate result then for Llantwit who had a good lesson in keeping their discipline and can now look forward to a semi-final in the cup at the end of the season.

This Saturday there is again a break in fixtures for the final weekend of the Six Nations championship with all games as normal being shown in the clubhouse, with members and non-members welcome to attend.

The next game will be away to Old Penarthians on Saturday, March 28, kick off at 2.30pm.

AH

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Wait goes on as the Saints are beaten by Vale United in ASRS Cup semi-final

ST ATHAN'S 40 year wait to once again win the ASRS Cup goes on as they were cruelly edged out by the undefeated juggernaut Vale United.

Top scorer Josh Morgan twice scored for Saints, first to put them in front early on and then to pull one back to set up a tense finale in a full-blooded semi-final.

Both teams started brightly and Gareth Richards in Saints' goal saved a shot at his near post before Karl Steel tested the Vale keeper with a stinging effort.

Steel continued his bright start as his industry created a long-range effort for Tony Charles but the keeper held well.

Both sides looked to get at each other and again both keepers were forced into straightforward saves but no breakthrough was forthcoming.

Vale, with a 100 per cent record in the league this season, had come out on top of the last two encounters between the sides but this fuelled Saints.

The game was fierce but St Athan were forcing Vale onto the back foot with some great intensity.

Finally Saints took a deserved lead. A free kick was won a few yards into the Vale half on the right, Reece Lewis whipped the ball into the box, a slight deflection took it into the path of Morgan, whose touch and control was second to none, to volley St Athan in front on 20 minutes.

St Athan were in the ascendancy and had their opponents on the ropes, then a moment of controversy.

Lewis sent in a corner, Jordan Mortimore rose to connect with a header. The ball crossed the line before being cleared away. according to the celebrating Saints' players but the referee was unsighted and did not allow the goal, much to St Athan's frustration.

Five minutes later, Vale United picked themselves up from the canvas to land a body blow of their own that took the wind out of St Athan's sails.

Dan Hanson picked the ball up on the right and skipped past two defenders before seeing his shot take a slight deflection to beat the keeper and Vale were level.

Saints were dazed by the events and Vale looked for a flurry of offence, excellent work down the left teed up the United forward but a combination of Richards' excellent save and Nicky Cox's chest denied a certain goal.

A breathless first half saw the teams go in level, Saints controlling the first 25 minutes but Vale responded to be on the front foot at the break.

Vale came out of the gates swinging in the second half and then a cruel way to concede came Saints' way.

A ball forward was intercepted by Mortimore who passed back to Richards, but a slight and cruel slip by the excellent keeper, saw him miss the ball and it roll into the net. Vale had the lead with their tails well and truly up and they capitalised to increase their lead.

Alex Gregory got in behind the St Athan defence on the right and ghosted inside to curl an effort in to make it three.

Vale kept coming and Saints needed a fine stop by Richards to deny them a fourth. St Athan regrouped and changed shape. It paid dividends as Saints found themselves back in the game. Richards' ball forward was flicked on by Mortimore for Morgan to race away and finish with aplomb.

Saints plugged away looking for an equaliser and Mortimore headed a Lewis corner against the post as they so nearly levelled.

With Saints pushing to level, Vale looked to counter attack. An adjudged back pass saw Vale blaze the resulting free-kick well over.

St Athan piled on the pressure in the final moments but Vale held firm and made it to their fourth final in three years since their inception and the treble looks on.

St Athan gave their all and can feel aggrieved not to have made the final themselves after a terrific clash between these two sides.

Vale United will now play Cowbridge Town, who advanced past Rhoose after a penalty shoot out. The final will be on April 30 at Jenner Park.

St Athan: Richards, Humphreys, Cox, Mortimore, Garrison, Laing, Lewis, Charles, Steel, Young, Morgan. Substitutes: Pugh, Ashton, Ball.

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HD

Llantwit Major and District Darts League

THE Llantwit Major and District Darts League season entered its 22nd week with the highlights being:

Gary Bohun 180, Steve Davie 180, Simon Greenfield 180, John Booth 114 out. Congratulations to the Shoes St Athan 'A' on inflicting the first defeat of the season on the Kings Head 'A1' in a closely fought 6-5 win.

The ladies semi-finals night takes place at the Rugby Club on Thursday, March 16 with the first match starting at 8pm.

Monday Night 'C' League table: Lamb and Flag 'C1' 163, Shoes St Athan 144, Lamb and Flag 'C2' 141, Boverton Castle 140, Wenvoe Arms 134, Rugby Club 128, Kings Head 'C2' 122, Tudor Tavern 'C2' 103, Kings Head 'C1' 71, Tudor Tavern 'C1' 53.

Tuesday Night 'A' League table: Kings Head 'A1' 199, Wenvoe Arms 177, Fox and Hounds 149, Rugby Club 'A2' 142, Shoes St Athan 138, Golden Cups 136, Shoes Peterston 119, Lamb and Flag 110, Four Bells 109, Rugby Club 'A1' 96, Tudor Tavern 88, Kings Head 'A2' 83, Blacksmith Arms 79, Rugby Club 'A3' 69.

DMC

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for March 13:

1st Alan Lewis & Terry Evans 68.98%, 2nd Simon & Debbie Richards 65.05%, 3rd Glyn Williams & Vida Halford 58.56%.

LE

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, March 7 a full programme of league matches was played.

The Highwayman Inn managed to hold on to second place by beating the league leaders Edmondes B 5-4.

But they are now only on the same number of points as the Six Bells Inn, who beat the Hairy Farmers 6-3.

In the pack chasing these two teams, Llanharry beat the Farmers Arms 8-1 and the Edmondes C beat the Red Lion by the same score, but the Edmondes A lost 3-6 to the Victoria Inn.

This week Ashley Kelland (Highwayman Inn) became the 15th player to join the '100 and over-out' club when he hit a 100-out.

Steve Davey became the second player from the Victoria Inn to hit a 180 maximum score.

Other notable individual performances this week were John Izzard's 91-out, Sally McCaver's 80-out (both from the Hairy Farmers) and Mike Newble (Llanharry) with a 78-out (ending on the bull).

Present league standings, after 19 weeks, are: Edmondes B (122 points), Highwayman Inn and Six Bells Inn (107), Llanharry (96), Edmondes A and Edmondes C (91), Hairy Farmers (77), Farmers Arms (75), Victoria Inn (72) and Red Lion (17).

Next week (Tuesday, March 21) another full programme of league matches is scheduled.

The Edmondes B hosts the Victoria Inn, the Hairy Farmers hosts Llanharry, the Edmondes C hosts the Highwayman Inn, the Red Lion hosts the Farmers Arms and the Six Bells Inn hosts the Edmondes A.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for March 7:

1st Mike Best & Sean Macdougall 68.06%, =2nd Dave Thomas & Tom Kendrick 54.86%, =2nd Jane Brook & Noelle Bond 54.86%. Mike Best and Sean Macdougall also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

For more information, telephone 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

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62 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.5 DCi Dynamique In met burgundy, 46,000 mile diesel 7-seater....**£8,995**

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11 NISSAN Qashqai 1.5 DCi Accenta In met-burgundy, 47,000 miles diesel at **£8,495**

10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec Automatic In black, 68,000 miles, diesel 7-seater **£8,495**

14 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi Dynamique Media Nav 5-Dr In silver, 39,000 miles, free road tax..... .....**REDUCED TO £7,995**

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15 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In red, 12,000 miles, under Ford warranty **£7,695**

13 PEUGEOT 3008 Aless HDi 5-Dr In met red, 29,000 miles **£7,695**

14 VAUXHALL Adam Glam 1.4 In very berry with cream roof, 25,000 miles, 1 owner, bluetooth, pan roof etc **£7,595**

15 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SRi Ecoflex 3-Dr In black, 23,000 miles **£7,495**

64 SUZUKI Swift 1.2 SZL 3-Dr In black with white roof, 19,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**

63 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style-E In encre met with white roof, 52,000 mile diesel hatch, free road tax **£7,495**

10 SKODA Yeti 1.2 TSi SE In aqua blue, 46,000 miles .....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £7,495**

08 BMW 320i M-Sport Coupe In silver, 70,000 miles with alloys a/c etc **£7,495**

63 RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Coupe 'Knight Edition' 40,000 miles, free road tax **£6,995**

63 FORD Fiesta 1.5 TDCi Zetec 3-Dr In black, 56,000 miles. 1 owner, free road tax **£6,995**

62 SKODA Octavia 1.6 TDi SE Auto Estate In silver, 70,000 mile diesel at.....**£6,995**

61 FORD C-max 1.6 TDCi Titanium In silver, 69,000 miles, diesel practical hatch **£6,995**

60 PEUGEOT 5008 Sport 1.6 Diesel 7-Seater In met-grey, 58,000 miles **£6,995**

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07 NISSAN X-trail 2.0 Diesel Avent T2 In black, 90,000 miles, full leather.....**£6,495**

64 PEUGEOT 108 Active 3-Dr In red, 23,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax **£6,295**

62 SKODA Rapid SE TSi 5-Dr In white, 59,958 miles, very nice example at **£5,995**

61 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style In white with black roof, 73,000 miles, diesel, free road tax **£5,995**

08 JAGUAR X-Type 2.2 Diesel 'S' Auto In black, 54,000 miles, full leather etc **£5,995**

11 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive In met-grey, 63,000 miles, diesel **£5,695**

10 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.6 TDCi SE 5-Dr In met blue, 74,000 miles, diesel hatch **£5,495**

54 VOLVO XC90 D5 2.3 SE AWD Auto In silver with black leather, diesel, 7 seater 4x4 .....**£5,495**

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09 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 CDTi (130) SE 5-Dr In silver, 83,000 miles, diesel hatch **£4,995**

12 TOYOTA Aygo VVTi Go 5-Dr In red, 23,000 miles, one owner with sat-nav **£4,695**

11 MAZDA 2 Sport 1.5 5-Dr In spirited green, 74,000 miles, very nice throughout ....**REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,695**

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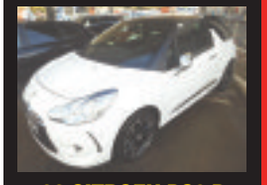
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Escape from the RWC 'pool of death' but…

Young Welsh wannabes may still have to wait their turn



Photos by HUW EVANS AGENCY.







THE WELSH TRY-SCORERS
ABOVE, Jamie Roberts came off the replacements bench to seal the victory.

LEFT: George North shrugged off his dip in form (and silenced his critics) with a commanding two-try performance.

ABOVE:
Man-of-the-match Rhys Webb gets the ball away.
RIGHT:
Robert Howley enjoys a quiet moment of triumph.

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

LAST week, when the national media were almost unanimously writing off Welsh chances against title-hunting Ireland on Friday evening in Cardiff, this column concluded… *'Wales will run out as bookies' underdogs, but that is a mantle they don easily; and this talented squad know that if they can only remember how good they are, and replicate the wonderfully-committed display that almost undid England, victory is well within their grasp.'*

As it out turned out, they did… and it was!

For the pendulum that is Welsh rugby had suddenly swung again and the same team that had collapsed so abjectly in that humiliating second half debacle at Murrayfield two weeks earlier, suddenly got their mojo back with a stunning 22-9 triumph over the heavily-tipped men in green at the Principality Stadium.

Just as the Welsh team that performed so dynamically against England had followed this up with a below-par, error-filled display in Edinburgh, so it was the turn of the pre-tournament joint favourites to demonstrate inconsistency with a similar spectacle for their travelling fans in Cardiff.

It wrecked Ireland's dream of a championship-deciding RBS Six Nations showdown with England in Dublin this Saturday. But, importantly for the home camp, it avoided Wales plunging into yet another dreaded 'pool of death' in the forthcoming draw for the 2019 Rugby World Cup in Japan, by clinging on to a top-eight world ranking.

Instead, after England's 61-21 rout of the shell-shocked Scots, it is the Irish – who alone can halt the men in white's seemingly unstoppable march to a historic back-to-back Grand Slam – that will be most concerned with redefining their global status in the final clash of the tournament at the Aviva stadium.

Certainly, that sobering Twickenham scoreline will have given the Welsh and Irish camps serious cause for reflection, having both suffered defeat at the hands of the Scots (29-13 and 27-22 respectively); with English pundits claiming there is now a yawning gap between Eddie Jones' men and the rest – something the proud Irish, who can point to a recent win over the All Blacks, have one last chance to refute before the tournament ends this weekend.

As for the Welsh camp, of course, the celebrations and palpable sense of relief, epitomised by the coaches' group hug in the stadium as the final whistle blew on a well-deserved victory, would have been tempered by the knowledge that despite the vastly-improved display after the Scotland no-show, and though absolutely critical in terms of RWC rankings, it was far from being the complete error-free performance they are striving for.

Within five minutes of the kick-off, they were three points behind after conceding a penalty to the waiting boot of outside half Johnny Sexton, and almost immediately, could have gone further behind to the first of three near-interceptions of opposite number Dan Biggar's flat passes as Wales, to their credit, sought to move the ball in a fast and furious first quarter of bone-crunching tackles on both sides, that saw Sexton leave the field injured to be temporarily replaced by Paddy Jackson.

Fired up Wales immediately took advantage of his absence and the green defence was suddenly stretched wide by a crossfield move that saw a happily back-to-form George North go over in the corner for a try which full back Leigh Halfpenny, who was to have a day of mixed fortunes, failed to convert.

The visitors were immediately stung into attack and the resulting pressure told when Wales conceded another penalty, which Jackson lofted over, before making way for the returning Sexton.

Then it was Ireland's turn to desperately defend their try line, as centre Jonathan Davies was pulled down inches short; and Sexton having to leave the field for a second time, metaphorically clutching a yellow card.

Halfpenny kicked the simple penalty from in front of the posts, to give Wales an 8-6 lead at halftime.

With Sexton still in the 'sin bin', it took Wales just three minutes to extend this to 15-6 with a second touchdown by North, converted by Halfpenny, and hostilities were then renewed with a vengeance, the tenacious Welsh defence being tested to the utmost, relieved only by Irish failings in execution, but finally conceding a controversial penalty by Sexton, now returned to the fray, as both sides' replacements waded into the action.

An eventful last quarter saw a drop goal attempt by Biggar hit an upright and a clearance kick almost charged down – and was marked by resolute Welsh defence in the face of increasingly desperate Irish attacks as time began to run out.

Ireland were thwarted by an unforced error just when it seemed the forwards were about to drive over the line, threatening all too familiar last-gasp heartbreak for Welsh players who had given their all.

Happily, though, on this occasion it was not to be, as replacement centre Jamie Roberts snapped up a charge-down and sealed the victory by muscling over at the posts.

Halfpenny slotted over the simple conversion to make the final score 22-9 and relieve pressure on caretaker Robert Howley and his fellow coaches, who had gambled on an unchanged starting line-up, despite clarion calls from all sides to ring the changes.

The question then was, would he say a wary 'same again' against the unpredictable French in Paris on Saturday – or succumb to the critics' calls and take his final Six Nations' opportunity to test other young Welsh wannabes waiting in the wings?

Or, true to form, would he go for safety first, knowing that despite the heartening win, there is still much to put right – and continue to view making changes as too much of a gamble – when this up and down Six Nations tournament has again underlined that Wales are still well short of achieving the ultimate goal – consistency!

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